The INDIAN

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Vol. 4
1976

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ypeset by: Wah Ha Typesetting & Printing Services Co.
rinted by: See Toi Printing Press.
ndia Office: 4/D-2 Akashdeep, French Bridge, Opera
ouse, Bombay 400 007

Annual Subscription Rate:
Stg. £10.00 or U.S.$ 18.00 or HK$80.00
Including Postage by Sea Mail
Annual Subscription Rate for Hong Kong:
HK$60.00
Single Copy : HK$6.00

The Indian is circulated among businessmen, professionals, political leaders, government agencies, trad associations and libraries in all countries. Direct subscribers should send crossed cheques payable t THE INDIAN.

THE INDIAN can also be obtained from the following:

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Samaiki

G. Sital

HAPPY DIWALI

Diwali is festival of lights; a joyous occasion for family reunions, a time to smoothen business feuds and settle corporate warfare; of drawing balance sheets and starting new books. Homes, offices, shops are cleaned, decorated and lighted. Poojas are performed. Many try their hand on cards, others test themselves with a bottle. Whatever one does, one has a feeling of festivity, happiness and joy.

We at the INDIAN office are equally caught by the festive mood. On behalf of myself and my colleagues may I wish you all a HAPPY DIWALI. May the Goddess Lakshmi bless you all with more and more prosperity.

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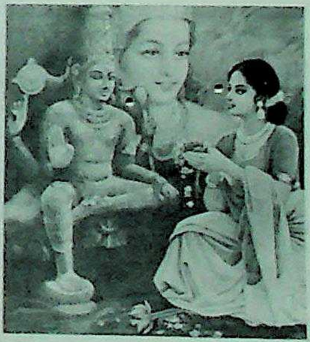


COVER:
Sri Ram Pooja

Rear View

K. N. VAID

Was Rama an Indian

Not everybody thinks so. Thai's elieve that Lord Rama was born, uled and died in their country. hailand has the town of Ayudhya vhich was the capital of the ountry till about 80 years ago. hey have Panchvati, Rambana and nost other historical places assoiated with the Rama epic. The uling dynasty of Thailand traces its ncesstory to the Rama and the ings assume the Rama title. Thaiand has its own Ramayana which is endered by its stage groups in eautiful ballets.

Rama is also claimed as its own y the island of Bali in Indonesia. hey too have historical places ssociated with or named after the Rama epic and have their own Ramayana. Balanese allege that Indians stole the Rama epic from them and made it as its own.

In fact, the Ramayana is all over the South East Asia and India. Story is the same though characters wear different clothes and speak different languages. Diwali is celebrated in India, Thailand and Indonesia during the same month, though the form of celebrations vary.

It is for the historians to establish who Lord Rama was, where he lived and ruled and how his story spread all over these countries. For us mortals, it is a matter of joy that Rama, Ramayana and Diwali are celebrated not by Indians alone, but Thais, Balanese and many others as well. We may speak different languages, write the epic in different scripts but all of us show similar depth of devotion to the Lord, take inspiration in like manner and try to shape our lives as per model set by the great epic.

Someday, we or our children will know more clearly the WHO, HOW & WHERE of the Lord Rama. That will lead to a greater cultural synthesis. Meanwhile, we Indians send our Diwali greetings to all other devotees of Lord Rama in all countries.

PAO BHAJI

When you visit Bombay, do you ever eat Pao Bhaji? Yes, Pao-Bhaji-a roll and vegetable mix. I doubt whether you ever tried it. You have missed a great deal. Pao-Bhajiwala are an institution by themselves. There are hundreds of them on street corners catering to the hunger and palate of thousands who want a meal for less than one rupee. But there are specials who serve the well to do. They generally turn up with their handcart in the afternoon and keep open till midnight. You can buy a plate of Bhaji for Rs. 5 or Rs. 25 with a pao thrown in free. Vegetables, spices, condiments, butters that go in cooking your plate depend upon the price you wish to pay. Vegetables – potato, chana, tomato, carrots, cheese, mushrooms etc. are all put on a large hot plate and cooked in butter on slow fire in your presence. While your dish is being cooked, Pao-Bhajiwala engages you in conversation and tells you the latest about film actresses, sethias, matka and all the hot stuff of the day as he knows it. Then your dish is served. It is out of this world – hot, spicy, flavoured, aromatic, soft. You have tasted nothing like this before. Of course, each client has his favourite spot which maybe Kalbadevi, Girgaum, Masjid Bunder or Thane. Patrons have preferences as to when they want to eat. Some take in the late night movie and drive to the Pao-Bhajiwala. Others may have it as early evening snack.

Pao-Bhajiwalas have become famous. They have been interviewed on television, written about in newspapers and recommended from one to the other by word of mouth. So, when you are in Bombay, do not forget to visit one of these places. If you have not eaten Pao-Bhaji you have not really visited Bombay.

COCA COLA

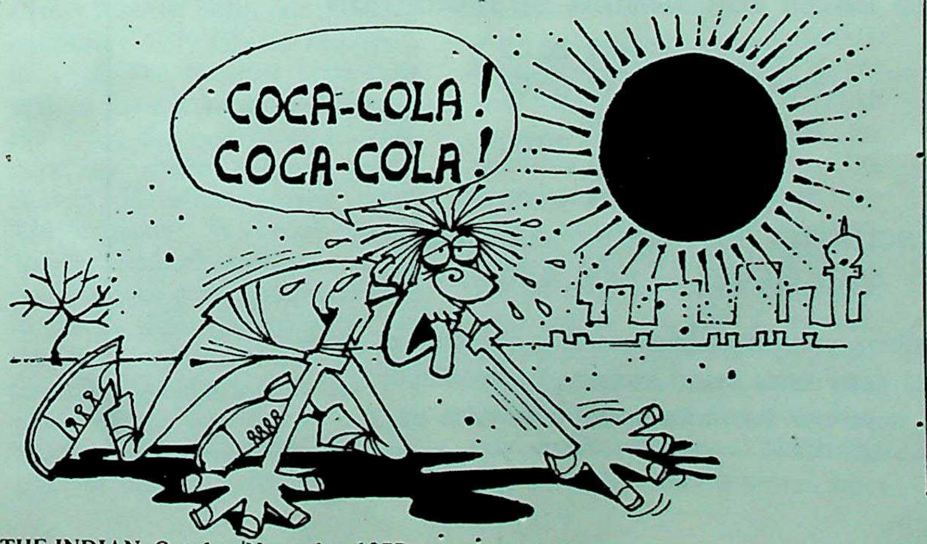
About 2000 million bottles of soft drinks are sold each year by the few major bottlers in India. Coca Cola has 60 percent of the organised market. And now Coca Cola is packing up to leave India.

Coca Cola came to India in 1950 and became popular so fast that by 1958 it had 22 bottling plants and needed to set up its own factory in India. Every year, it spends millions of rupees in its high pressure promotion campaign. It has more hoardings, more advertisements and more 'frees' than all other bottlers put together. In 1967, it introduced Fanta – the orange drink. One of its franchise holders, Pure Drinks Ltd., marketed 200,000 bottles of Orange Special a day and was pressurized to discontinue it. The Orange Special disappeared from the market overnight. Another franchise holder was ready with a lemon drink 'Campa' in 1972 but Coca Cola asked it to stop it. Campa has come in the market about a month ago after Coca Cola is going out. About Rs 100 million has been remitted abroad to pay for the concentrate of Cola, remittance of permitted profits abroad is in addition to it and is several times over.

Reasons for the departure of Coca Cola from India are many. It is said that the government asked Coca Cola to disclose the formula of the concentrate being imported in India. The Company refused and the government declined to issue import licence. Under the law, the government is entitled to ask an importer the contents of its imports. According to another reason it is alleged that some of the Coca Cola franchise holders were strong supporters of the Congress and contributed huge amounts to the Congress Party funds. The new government is simply breaking the money base of the opposition party by attacking Coca Cola. Still another reason advanced is that the Indian government has been under heavy pressure of the Indian bottling companies to contain the high pressure sale and market monopoly of Coca Cola. Whatever be the reason, Coca Cola is going out of India shortly.

The soft drinks industry started in India in 1837 when an Englishman Henry Roger started bottling soda water at Bombay. Till then, soda water was imported from England. The Roger Company is still going strong though it changed hands twice. After Roger, Duke Bottling Company commenced work in 1889. Its founder was Dinshaw Pundole who visited England as a member of the Pars Cricket Eleven in 1886. He was a bowler and thought Duke Cricket balls to be lucky for him. Struck by the popularity of soft drinks in England, he started his own Company on returning home. The Company is still going strong. Parle is another bottling company that ranks next to Coca Cola. It came in the market in 1949 and grew very fast. It has given franchise to other bottling companies in India, West Asia, Singapore, Malaysia, etc. In addition to the organised sector there are thousands of small bottlers, operating push-key machines and marketing bottles many times more than the 2000 millions of the organised sector. Their range includes soda water, lemonade, other flavours, limbu-pani, jalzira, sherbats etc.

Soft drinks industry will grow no doubt but Coca Cola will be missed, particularly by the teenagers who are also addicts to it.


COCA-COLA!
COCA-COLA!

DRY LAW WILL HIT 2 MILLION PEOPLE

About two million persons will become unemployed if the government enforces prohibition in the country, according to the Delhi retail wine merchants' association.

An association spokesman told newsmen that the country would also lose about Rs. 600 crores in revenue.

The association wanted the government to go slow on prohibition, the spokesman said and warned that if imposed in haste without educating the people, disastrous results would follow.

The spokesman suggested that the government should liberalise the sale of beer, increase the price of liquor and have more dry days in a month.

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SKANDA SHASHTI ~ ITS SIGNIFICANCE

By 'Kautilya'

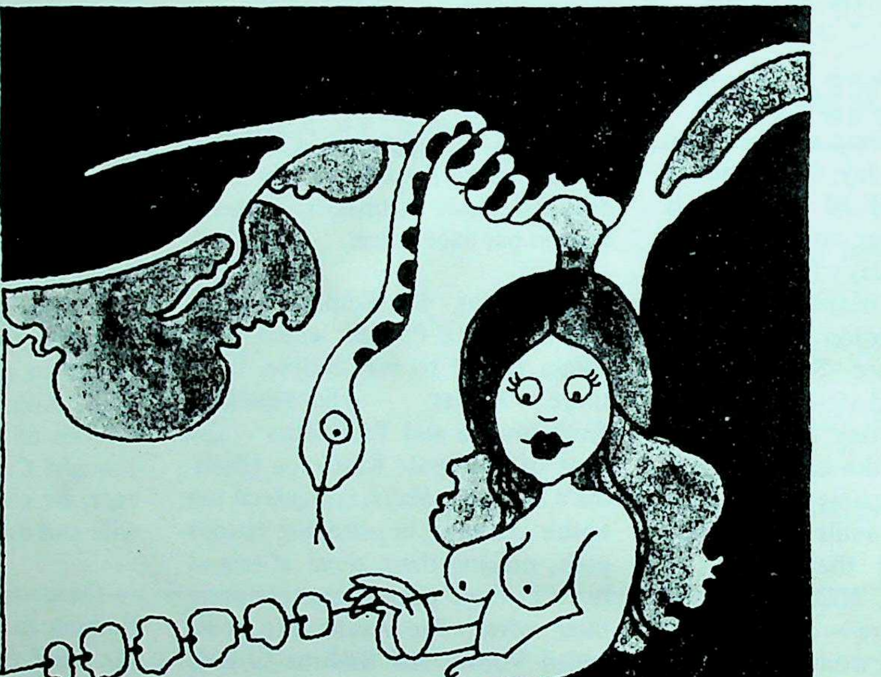
'Deepavali', falling on the Amavasya, new moon day, of the month of 'Tula' (Oct 15 to Nov 15), is celebrated all over the world by Hindus. The six days following are equally days of devotion, dedication and celebration in commemoration of Lord Subrahmanya and his celebrated victory over the Demons, culminating on the sixth day (Shashti) in the vanquishment of the greatest Asuras of them all, Soorapadma. Tamils especially Saivites wherever they are – in India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore and elsewhere – abstain from meat, alcohol and women on all the six days and recite Skanda Purana, offering special pujas for the six faces of the Lord.

Amavasya marks the confluence of the Sun (Shiva) and the Moon (Shakti). The month of 'Tula' (Libra) with the weighing balance as the zodiacal sign, represents the samathva or balanced state of the Divine Parents. Svati, one of the 27 asterisms mostly falls on Amavasya in Tula. The Sanskrit texts state that on the day when the Sun transits Svati, the rain drops trickling into sea shells become pearls. Skanda is affectionately called 'Muttukumara' 'Pearl-son' by the Tamils. Sanskrit treatises on the evaluation of gems and pearls refer to the six gunas (good qualities) of the pearl. Muttukumara has six faces, Shanmukha, and on the sixth phase of the new moon in Tula, Shashti, he is worshipped by millions of devotees with the chorus-singing of 'Tiruppugazh' ('In Praise of the Lord') sung by his great devotee, Saint Arunagiri, a Tamil lyricist par excellence.

According to Skanda Purana, one of the 18 Puranas which Veda Vyasa taught to his disciple, Suta, three Asuras – Soorapadma, Simhamukha and Tarakasura – the sons of Prajapati Kashyapa (Brahma's son) and Maya, conquered the entire Universe, imprisoning various gods, making them serve as errand boys in their palaces and ravishing their wives. The Asuras also compelled Vishnu and Brahma to seek refuge on Mount Meru which they feared to tread for fear of Shiva who it was that had given them the boon of near-immortality and immense prowess and strength; they could be killed only by Shiva or his Shakti. Unable to bear the Asuras' cruelties, the gods headed by Vishnu and Brahma prayed to Shiva for intervention at the time when as the Silent Guru, Dakshinamoorty, he was dispelling in Mount Kailas the doubts of great seers like Sanaka. He gave the gods the assurance of his protection. Yet the depredation by the Demons continued unchecked. In desperation, the Gods sent Manmatha (Cupid) to aim an arrow at Shiva. Manmatha, trembling in the Lord's presence, was about to let his arrow fly, when Shiva turned his face towards him; and lo! a spark of fire from Fire-eye of Shiva consumed Manmatha into ashes. The dart, however, went on its own course and struck Parva who, as the foundling daughter Himavan and Mena, was doin penance in Himachal forest for th boon of getting Shiva as her spouse The marriage of the Parents of th Universe took place but the god waited in vain for the birth of thei son. Shiva, responding to the e treaties of Rati, Manmatha' s wife brought Cupid back to life: how ever, he could be seen only by hi wife and none else.

Once again the gods led by Brahma and Vishnu implored Shiv for relief from the demons. Shiva assuming the form of a six-heade God, looked longingly at Parvati Even as he did so, a lustrous quintessence of effulgent and fiery splendour, Tejas, emanated from the Fire-eyes of the six heads and pervaded the Universe. Unable to bear the heat, the Devas appealed to him to reduce the heat; and he did so. He asked Agni and Vayu to take the six Tejas to Ganga. They prayed to Him to make the tejas less weighty and more cool and He did so. Yet Agni was able to carry the six tejas only for a short distance and Vayu helped by carrying the load for some more distance. With great difficulty and frequent exchanges of the burden, they placed the six tejas in the lotus-laden reed (Sharavana) forest on the bank of Ganga whose waters immediately started drying up. However, Ganga helped in floating the tejas to the centre of

If Eve had discovered Tandoor, she wouldn't have needed the apple



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the pond. In a moment's time, the six tejas transformed themselves into the form of a beautiful child (Kumara) with six heads and three eyes on each face. These incidents gave him various names such as 'Shanmukha', 'Gangeya', 'Agni-bhu' and 'Sharavanabhava'. Vishnu asked the six Kritika nakshatra kanyas (maidens) to suckle the Divine child: and the son of Shiva took the form of six children; and he got the name 'Kartikeya'. Incidentally, Parvati angered that the Gods did not wait till she herself begot the child of Shiva, cursed that the Devas shall get no progeny.

Kumara's exploits are many and interesting to narrate and hear. Once Brahma, the Creator, ignored Skanda, made obeisance to Ganesh and entered Kailas for audience with Shiva. Brahma's irreverence angered Skanda who punched Brahma on his head, as he was coming out and put him in prison. Creation as well as the Universe stood at standstill! Shiva intervening asked Kumara to release Brahma and Skanda agreed only if Brahma could give the meaning of Pranava Mantra (Aum). Brahma could not. When Shiva asked Kumara for the meaning, Skanda said that as it was very sacrosanct, he could whisper it only in the father's ear. With Shiva taking the child up in his arms, the Child whispered the mantra's significance in Shiva's ear and came to be known as 'Swaminatha'. Thereafter Skanda released Brahma who made adequate amends by worshipping the Child God.

Of the three Asura brothers, Soorapadma the eldest was the most powerful, valourous and arrogant and refused to hear the plea of one of his sons who advocated absolute surrender. Soora chose to give battle to Skanda, the Senapati of the Gods, and after employing all sorts of trickery and maya, was no match to Skanda. The Demon split himself into two, a monstrous peacock and an equally monstrous cock. Overpowering both of them, Skanda mounted the peacock, becoming known as 'Sikhivahana' and took the cock to his banner, being therefore called 'Kukkutadwaja'. Indra overjoyed at the freedom obtained for him, the other gods and their wives, gave his daughter Gajambika, also known as Devasena, in marriage to Kumara.

Shanmukha's story is not complete without the narration of his marriage with Sri Valli. Vishnu, in the form of a Shiva Yogi, was doing penance in the forest; his concentration was disturbed at the sight of a beautiful doe which immediately conceived, gave birth to a female child and deposited her in the Lavalli creeper. A tribal chieftain who found this girl called her Lavalli or Valli by the name of the creeper. With the girl coming of age, she was guarding her father's fields from winged predators. Skanda intent on marrying her, ran into her presence as a hunter and made approaches to her but was rebuffed. Again he took the form of an old and tottering Brahmin and coming up to her implored her to quench his thirst and hunger. After consuming the food prepared of millets given to him by her, he asked her to marry him. Aghast, she repelled him. He sought the help of his elder brother, Ganesh who must be propitiated by anyone wishing the fulfilment of his desire. There appeared at once on the scene a huge wild elephant with white and gleaming tusks, trumpeting ferociously and tearing down branches of trees. Terrified, Valli ran to the old man and hugged him in fear and in abject surrender, With the elephant evanescing into thin air, Skanda revealed himself and Valli thereupon became his slave. Hearing the cries of the tribal chief and his followers who were coming there to see Valli, Skanda became a huge neem (margosa) tree. The tribal chief's initial anger was assuaged when he realised that it was none other than the son of Shiva who was to be his son-in-law. Devasena and Lavalli in their previous births were sisters, born of Vishnu and had done tapas to wed Skanda.

Skanda is "Muruga' to the Tamils who consider him as the very source of their language. Peculiarly enough the Skanda temples i South India are mostly on hills o hillocks and the most famous place of pilgrimage are six: Tiruttan Tiruchendur, Tirupparankundram Pazhamudirsolai, Palni and Swam malai in India. Kalidasa, the poets poet of India has composed a whol poem, a Mahakavyam, on the birt of Kumara, naming it 'Kumar Sambhava'. Yet Skanda is not muc worshipped in North India. Th South Indian community in Delh has constructed a temple in th Indian capital, dedicated to Skand patterned in Dravidian style. Ou side India, Kadirgamam in S Lanka is a renowned place of pi grimage with Hindus and Sinhales thronging in vast numbers on festival days. One of the first acts o piety of the ancient Kings of S Lanka and even of present-da Prime Ministers is to pay homage t 'Kataragama Deiyo', as the Sinhalese call the Lord. In Malaysia, th temple of Skanda is housed in th caves of the Bhatu hill in Kual Lumpur. In London, the devotee of Muruga are planning the co struction of a Murugan temple. I all the Shiva temples in Sout India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia an Singapore, the icon of Skand is on the left even as tha of Ganesh is on the right at th entrance to the shrine.

Skanda, the Perennial Child, i ever alert as Shakti Dharan, the wielder of the spear or Vel, to eradicate evil and ever ready to protect, nurse and nourish his devotees. The Skanda Purana vouche that the very recitation with devotion of the sixteen names of Subrahmanya, the essence of Brahman confers on one and all anything an everything they seek. Skanda worship knows no boundaries. Skanda Shashti, Kumara's victory over the forces of evil, was celebrated with songs, pujas and fast on 10th November this year throughout the whole of Southeast Asia, to invoke the blessings of the War Lord of the Hindu pantheon.

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WHERE TRUST IS A TRADITION

PRIME MINISTER MORARJI DESAI'S VISIT TO RUSSIA

'Further cements friendly relations'

By Somnath Dhar

Our Special Correspondent in New Delhi.

Returning to New Delhi on October 27, 1977, after a six-day visit to the Soviet Union – his first important tour abroad, since assuming office, apart from the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference – the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Morarji Desai, said at the airport that his talks with the Soviet leaders had "further cemented our friendly relations that had stood the test of time." Addressing a largely-attended press conference later in the morning, Mr. Desai reiterated that the most significant outcome of his visit was that both countries had now better understanding of each other and the relations between them are "closer and deeper."

Though questions concerning the former Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi (her meeting with him, her financial resources, etc) took a considerable time of the news conference, Mr. Desai spoke of Russia and her leaders and people with warmth. He was highly impressed by the improvement in the standard of life of the Soviet people since he last visited that country 17 years ago. Also, he was very much impressed by the care taken by the Soviet Government to look after the health of the people. When a correspondent asked whether only Communist Party workers were admitted to health resorts, Mr. Desai snapped, "These are open to all – you too can go –" (Mr. Desai, himseld a picture of health, hardly looks his age – he surely has 'miles to go'.)

Asked if Mrs. Gandhi's arrest figured in his talks in the Soviet Union, Mr. Desai said nobody had mentioned her at all. Obviously, the phase of the Russian strong support to Mrs Gandhi, irrespective of the Emergency, to the point of describing the Janata Party as an alliance of reactionaries, is a thing of the past. Hence the Indo-Soviet joint declaration signed in Moscow on the conclusion of the Prime Minister's visit mentioned that he had informed the Soviet leaders of the developments in India leading to the formation of the new government. When the newsman persisted with questions about Mrs. Gandhi – that the "drama" of her arrest and release would not be repeated – Mr. Desai quipped: "You better have patience. You will see there will be proper drama."

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Adverting to international issues, in reply to questions, Mr. Desai felt that the dialogue between the U.S.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme-Soviet signing the Indo-Soviet Joint declaration in Moscow on October 26, 1977.

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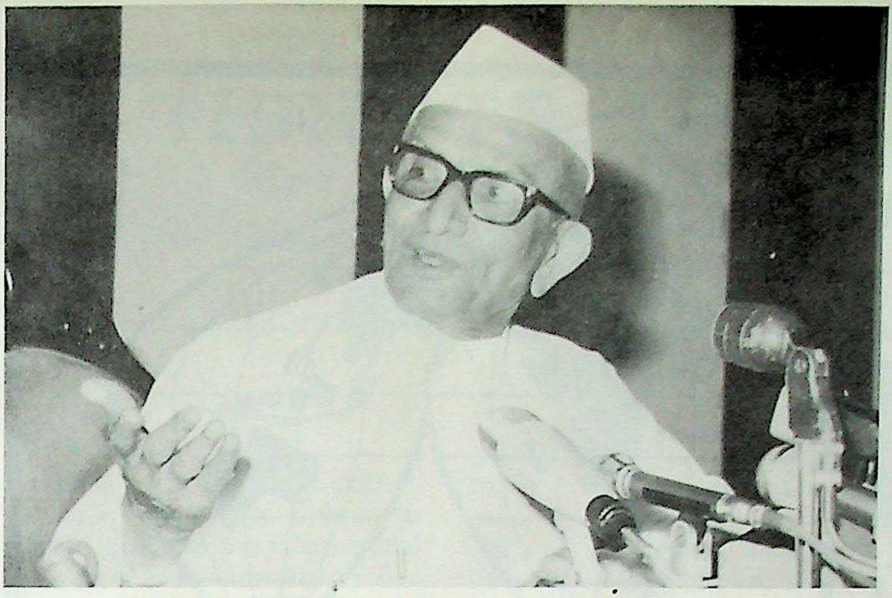


The Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, at his press conference in New Delhi on October 27, 1977.

and the Soviet Union on the Indian Ocean was proceeding on hopeful lines. Both were agreed not to increase their presence but gradually reduce it so that the area would be eventually free from outside influence.

Questioned about the Soviet reaction to India's eagerness to normalise relations with China, Mr. Desai said that the issue concerned India and China. Though China had made some moves indirectly, nothing had been heard from them directly. "In any case, these relations should not come in the way of relations with other countries", he said.

The Moscow Declaration hails the Indo-Soviet Treaty of 1971 as a sound basis for friendship which promotes peace and stability without coming in the way of either side's friendly relations with third countries. The Moscow talks also considered the rich economic and political content of the friendship which binds India and the Soviet Union. Periodic high level contacts and long-term economic co-operation have been promised in the joint declaration. That an alumina plant will be constructed in India with Soviet assistance will be the first concrete manifestation of the accord. There was a broad identity of views on international problems, particularly with regard to South Africa and the Middle East, where the two countries have opposed racism and aggression consistently over the years, and supported the cause of freedom and equality of nations.

The press has hailed Mr. Desai's mission to Moscow as one that "wiped the slate clean of past prejudices and misunderstandings" and thus cleared the way "for a fruitful new phase in the traditional friendship between the two countries". The lasting validity of this "enduring friendship" was conceded even by those sections of the press who have been critics of the "strong trend in the Indian administration pushing the country towards the western capitalist world".

The Prime Minister's press conference confirmed the close personal rapport that has been established between the leaders of India and the U.S.S.R at the highest level. He told the newsmen that he was touched by the "warmth and friendship" of the Soviet people. On October 26 night, Mr. Desai said, people crowded the route to Moscow airport though it was dark and drizzling. The Delhi TV, imaginatively enough, telecast shots of the Russians waving flags while covering the Prime Minister's press conference.

MAHARASHTRIANS HAVE TOP CALORIE INTAKE

A survey to study some of the indigenous diets and recipes of high nutritive value among various lower middle-income group communities in Bombay has revealed that the calorie intake of [illegible] Maharashtrian community — 24[illegible] calories per individual per day — was not only the highest among the communities studied but also exceeded the recommended allowances.

The calories were chiefly derived from cereals, fats and oils, nuts and oilseeds, and sugar and jaggery.

This has been revealed in a study of indigenous diets and recipes of high nutritive value among the lower middle income groups in Bombay. The study was sponsored by the department of social welfare, government of India.

Five communities were selected for the study which included Maharashtrians, Gujaratis, East Indian Christians, Bohra Muslims and Parsis. Interviews were taken in 200 families from each of these communities with a monthly income between Rs. 300 and Rs. 600.

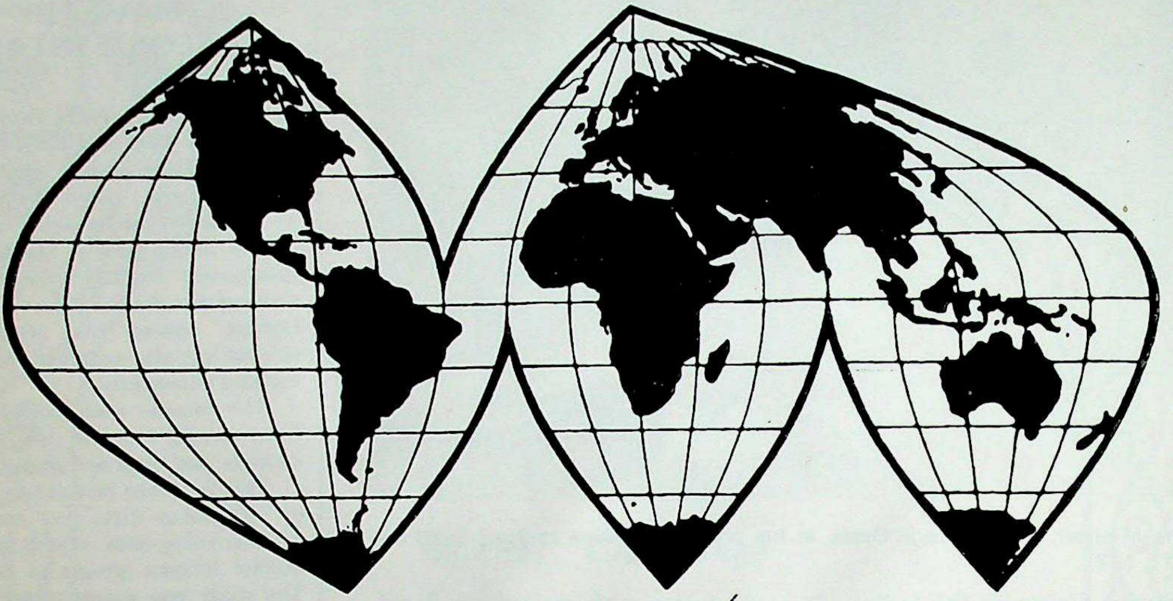
The Maharashtrian community was also characterised by the use of large varieties of indigenous vegetable preparations. The recipe adjudged most superior with an overall nutritive value was "karanji" followed by "puranpoli".

"YATRI SAHAYAK"

The railway "coolie" will in future be described as "Yatri Sahayak", according to the national federation of railway porters, vendors and bearers.

The federation has already moved the railway ministry in this regard because it feels that the word "coolie" does not sound respectable.

The federation pressed this demand and several others when the minister of state for railways, Mr. Shiv Narayan, inaugurated the convention of the federation's western and central zones in Agra.



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THREATS TO INDIANS IN AUSTRALIA

KIDNAPPING OF INDIAN DIPLOMAT FOLLOWS UNEASY YEAR

By Rama Gaind

Indian High Commission staff, in Canberra, and other Indian nationals in several Australian capital cities have been under tight police security for the past three months following a series of bizarre incidences.

The two most sensational incidents have been a fire, which completely gutted the High Commission offices . . . and the assault and abduction of the Military Attache, Colonel Iqbal Singh and his wife.

In the early hours of 29th August, this year, fire completely destroyed the two-storey High Commission office causing damage estimated at A$175,000 with the lounge and recreation areas gutted, severe damage being incurred to the administrative section and smoke and water damage to the remainder.

Police detectives carried out intensive investigations to determine the cause of the fire, but all to no avail. However, unofficial reports have attributed the blaze to having been caused by an electrical fault. The Commission has been moved to new premises.

On 15th September, Colonel Singh, and his wife, were kidnapped at gunpoint from their home, in the prestigious Canberra suburb of Red Hill, and driven to an isolated spot. Thereafter, a struggle ensued between the Colonel and his assailant, who was overpowered – but not before Colonel Singh was stabbed in the chest. When the attacker escaped, a passing truck driver was flagged down who took the couple to hospital for treatment. The Colonel was immediately taken to the intensive care ward where he was operated upon, while his wife was detained for observation before being allowed to return home.

Then began the most elaborate police search for the kidnapper with the aid of airforce helicopters and tracker dogs. After three days a 26 year old Canberra man – John William Duff – was arrested and charged over the attack and abduction of the Singhs. All the charges were lodged under the Crimes (Internationally Protected Persons) Act. Mr. Duff has been committed for trial to the Supreme Court on four charges relating to kidnapping . . . attack . . . and breaking and entering into the Colonel's home. A charge of attempted murder was dismissed. Mr. Duff is a social worker, who is also a member of the Ananda Marga r ligious group, in Australia.

The kidnapping has heightened year of harassment for the India Diplomatic corps, and other India nationals throughout Australia.

The diplomats have been the ta get of demonstrations and abusiv letters. Although the source o most of the anti-Indian activities not known, much of the blame ha been directed at the Ananda Marg group. However, the sect has denie any association with the threats o attacks.

The group's leader, Prabha Rangan Sarkar, has been jailed i India on several counts of murder.

Numerous incidents against Indian Government activities in Australia have led to the implementation of the most stringent security precautions ever to surround

Mrs. Singh, on left

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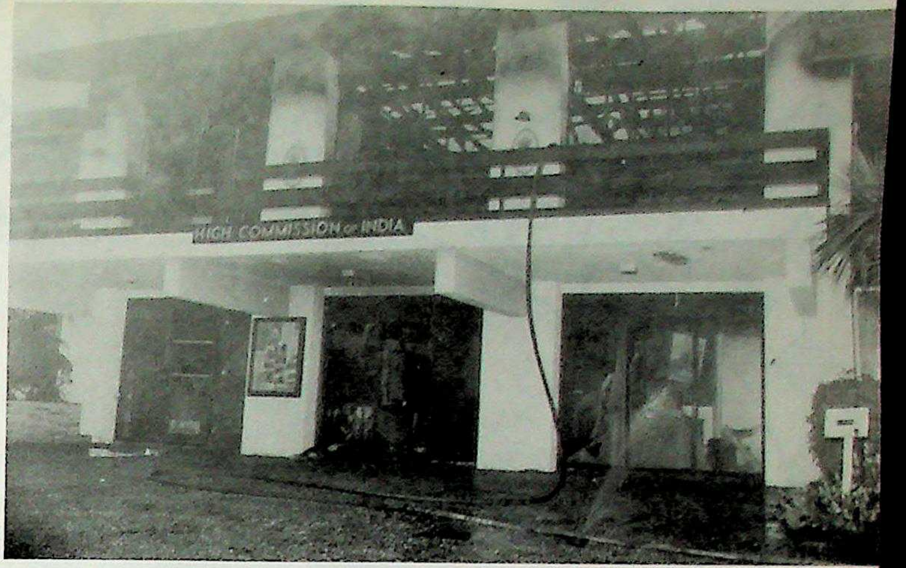

The remains of the commission building after the fire had been extinguished.

diplomatic mission and associated establishment. More than 150 Federal policemen, including A.C.T. Police, are now guarding Indian personnel and premises, supplemented by State police in some areas.

Following are a resume of incidents which have occured since last August:

On August 24, the Air India offices in Sydney were spattered with blood.

On August 26, a pig's head was left in the office of the Consul-General for India in Sydney.

On August 29, the chancery of the Indian High Commission, in Canberra was seriously damaged by fire, the cause of which, though it is thought to have been started by an electrical fault, has not been established.

Mr. Iqbal Singh in the ruins of the high commission building.

Between September 2 and 11, the home of the Indian Consul-General in Sydney was pelted with stones at night.

On September 15, Colonel Singh and his wife were assaulted and abducted, but later escaped from their assailant.

On September 22, a letter demanding A$100,000 was sent to the Indian vice-consul in Sydney, Mr. R. L. Alagh, who was warned that if the money was not paid Indian diplomats could be killed and members of their families and staff raped.

On October 10, an Indian tourist office in London received a message that assassinations would begin within a week unless Mr. Sarkar was released from prison.

Nine days later, on Wednesday, a clerk in the Air India office in Melbourne, Mr. M. Meneghini, 40, was stabbed in the abdomen by a man who had left behind a bag which contained a note demanding the release of Mr. Sarkar.

Queensland police have mounted a 24 hour a day guard in Brisbane on the nephew of Colonel Singh, Mr. Kenwal Singh, who reported an attempted abduction of himself by three men.

Police and military counter-terrorists squads have been placed on alert since an assertion by an anti-Indian terrorist group that it has the highly dangerous anti-personnel mines stolen from an unguarded army ammunitions dump, in Victoria.

A letter received by police in Victoria has threatened attacks on the lives of Indian diplomats and commercial employees and on Indian-owned property throughout Australia.

The letter also threatened the lives of police and security officials guarding Indian diplomats and properties.

The threats in the letter, which was sent by a group calling itself the Universal Proutish Revolutionary Front, are similar to those which have been sent to Indian officials in recent months and which have followed, and in some cases preceded, attacks on Indian people or property.

Anti-hijacking precautions have been intensified for the arrival and departure of Air India airliners at Australian airports including, it is believed, special checks on baggage and on freight.

Special security precautions surround members of the Indian cricket team which is presently in Australia on a two month tour. The cricketers will be guarded throughout their off-field hours and crowds watching them play will be kept under special surveillance.

The Australian Government has expressed its deep regret and concern over the recent attack on Colonel Singh. The Prime Minister, Mr. Malcolm Fraser, in a personal letter to his Indian counterpart, Mr. Desai, has assured that Indian diplomatic staff, in Australia, will be given "full protection".

The cost of security arrangements for members of the Indian High Commission, in Canberra, have been estimated as high as A$3,000,000. Senior police officers claim that the level of security was unprecedented in Australia, but it appeared that it might grow rather than diminish.

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'Let Kismet Be Your Guide'

By Manjit Singh

Walk through the gates. Enter the temple. Ask for the priest. Don't be scared. Don't feel embarrassed. Perhaps a little shy. Never ashamed. You are not a beggar. Nor a bum. Your kismet leads; you must follow. It was written how on this day you will come to claim what is yours by right . . .

Let's say you arrive in Hong Kong penniless. You can't rent a room anywhere. You're tired, hungry, and you don't know what to do. You're also a stranger. And you're very sensitive. You've been having it tough for quite sometime now. Which is why you're having such a difficult time getting back to your feet. You've come to Hong Kong to try your luck. But right now you're going bananas.

You need a base. It costs money. You need a place to sleep. That costs more than food. You need a bath, a change of fresh clothes, you're desperate.

You close your eyes and you let out a cry. Nothing comes out. You close your eyes and you try again. Not a sound. Just as you're about to have another go you remember having read this article – you yell. This time everybody hears you.

You rush to the first Sikh to come your way and you ask him to show you the quickest way to the Hong Kong Sikh Temple on Queen's Road East. You fly . . . you sing . . . you smile . . . you see Hong Kong for the very first time . . . everywhere you are being welcomed . . .

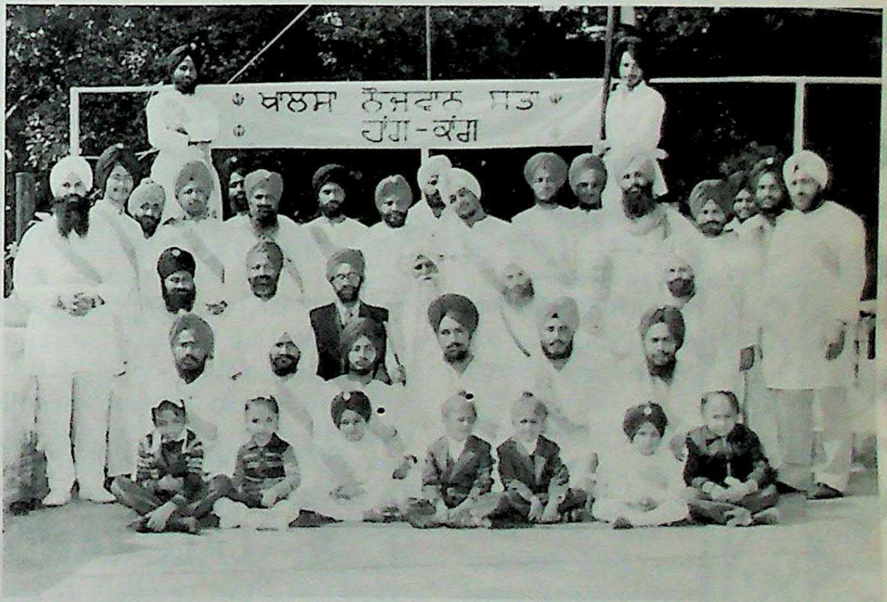
'Ah, so this is Hong Kong, the Bagdad of the jet age, the fabulous land of fortune, the jackpot on the Fragrant Harbour, the gateway to a million dreams.

'Look at those festivals and those seminars; my, what attractions, what excitements, what thrills. I'm in Hong Kong! Can you believe that? I'm in Hong Kong!

'Ah, there is gold to be found; deals to be made; fun to be had; sights to be seen; people to meet; love, culture, art, hope; I will build and I will create, I will use my talents, put my ideas into practice, I will become a millionaire!

'World, this is the end of the rainbow. If I don't succeed in Hong Kong, if I don't . . . if . . . if . . . there are no ifs – I will succeed! I will! I will! I will!

The temple was built in 1901. It's not impressive. Could use some plaster, a coat of paint. Someone is building a road next to the temple. The place is in a mess. There's an air of poverty about the place, but you act as if you're pleased with everything you see; the humble appearance of the temple comple-



Members of the Khalsa Young Man Association organised by Head Priest Giani Ranjit Singh Rahi who play an active part in celebrating religious festivals and culture programmes at the Sikh Temple.

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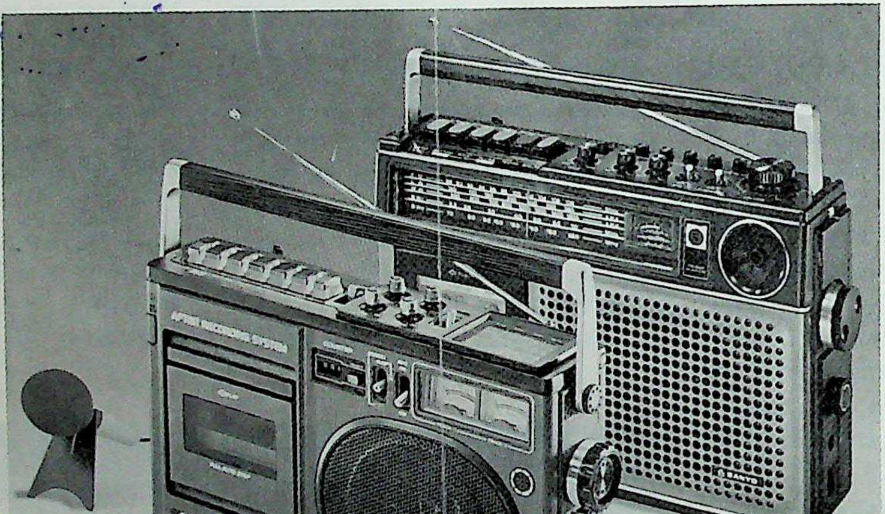

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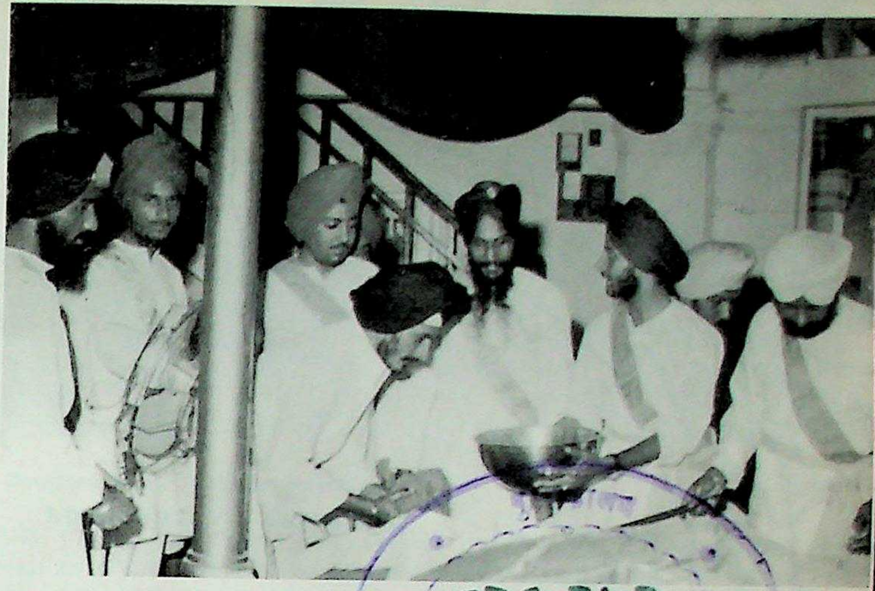
ments your mood. The last thing you want to do is go into a modern building where everything is high class and posh. And even if you did you don't have the clothes.

You get a strange feeling as you come closer. All sorts of objections start running through your mind. You want coaxing, you want to be told you won't get turned away, you want the red-carpet treatment. You want to turn back. You want to run. *But where will you go?* You stop in your tracks. Eyes are looking in your direction. Too late. Can't turn now. It's easier to go ahead. You take a deep breath, you let out a sigh, your kismet does the rest, making you enter the temple. Suddenly you're home.

You are what the temple committee calls a deserving case. It means you're welcome to take shelter in the temple's hostel. Here you will be given a bed, bedclothes, bathing and washing facilities. You will have tea in the morning and in the afternoon, lunch and dinner, and you will be allowed to stay for one month. All for free. However, should you need a couple of extra weeks, that won't be so difficult to do. Amar Singh Tussar, the secretary of the committee, will see that you don't get stranded.

The time has come for you to register, so you go straight to the office of the head-priest. Someone will show you where to go. When you find the head-priest, stick your hand out and let him shake it. Give him a good, firm grip. Let him see how happy you are to be in the temple. Tell him your name. Tell him your problems. Give him a chance to do something for you. When he asks you questions you feel you can't answer, tell him so; who knows he may answer them for you.

Should you feel like telling lies, do so. The head-priest won't mind. He is used to liars. He meets them all the time. He won't call you a liar; he will just wait till you come around. Perhaps it will be better to speak the truth: be a breath of fresh air: he will really appreciate you. Besides, he is so much fun. He likes to laugh and joke and tell stories. Life to him is one big holiday. When you have nothing better to do, when things are not going according to plan, when you are lonely and need someone to give you a lift, you go and tell the head-priest to give you a few episodes out of his life. It will be quite an experience.



Guru Ka Parsad being distributed.

078543

The head-priest is Giani Ranjit Singh Rahi. Both Giani and Rahi are titles of great distinctions: Giani stands for Preacher of Divinity, Rahi stands for that Giani who travels the wilderness to carry the Word of God. He will tell you there is One God and many ways to worship Him: he worships the Sikh way: and you may worship your way: whatever your way may be.

Giani Ranjit Singh Rahi is sixty-four years of age. He is tall, slim, and his silver-grey beard almost reaches his waist. He looks fierce. In fact he is as soft as a lamb. But don't let his softness fool you. He is a wise man. A good man struggling hard to do the kind of work very few seem to appreciate. He will smile and tell you he is not a film star to be appreciated: 'I am a religious disciplinarian. I also understand the needs of the individual. What my iron will wants me to do, logic and conscience will not allow me. Sometimes I wish I was a police staff-sergeant like my father ; everything was cut and dry for him. I have to weigh and consider a thousand things before I am allowed to feel righteous. And even then it only takes a few seconds before God humbles me down to an old man. God is the True Teacher.'

He is a smart politician. A high intellect. A dramatist. He is also a poet, a lecturer in Sikh and Punja History, a teacher of twenty-five years experience, a linguist, a keen sportsman, and a registered medical practitioner in Ayervedic Medicine. If he can't solve your problems, it will be because you didn't take them to him.

He will give you a final look and ask you to sign the temple register. He won't ask you not to break any of the rules-and-regulations because he knows you will. He will just hope you will give the temple the consideration it deserves. While all this has been taking place, his wife would have offered you a cup of tea.

Now the formalities are over; you let out a big sigh. You are relieved. You got a roof over your head, you have food and drink, you can have your first bath in Hong Kong; and you can do your laundry, dress in your best clothes and become one of the many tourists who are visiting Hong Kong. You find yourself giggling

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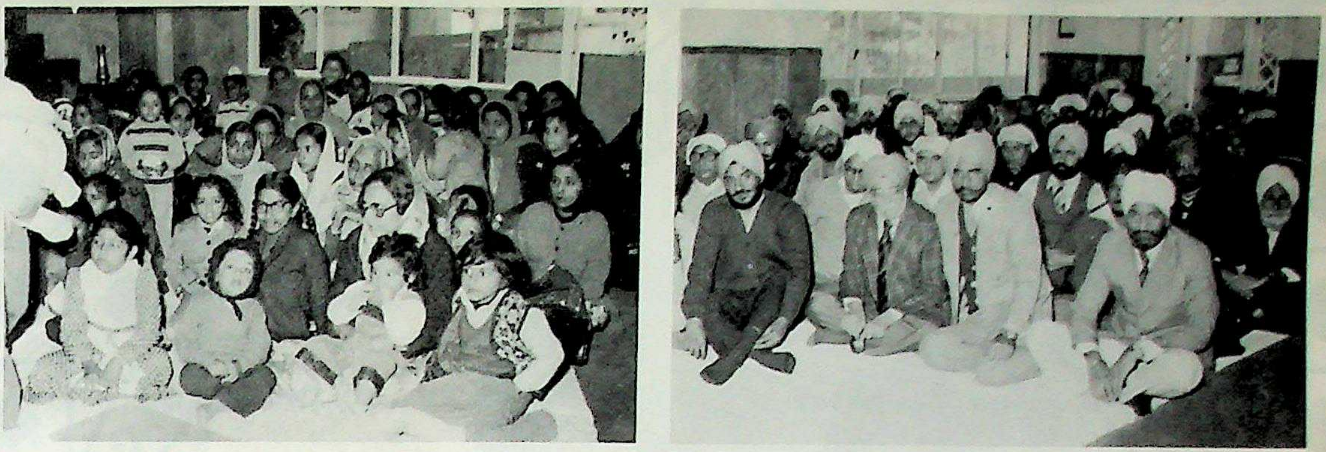
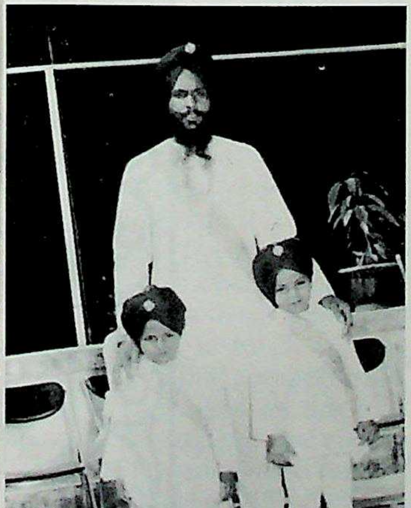


Devotees listening to kirtan attentively.

like a silly fool. It wasn't all that bad, after all, you say to yourself. You got a whole month to sort your problems and to get back to living life as it should be lived. *You know you can do it!* The head-priest is smiling as he takes you on a tour of the temple. Soon he will introduce you to the secretary and to the president, Makhan Singh. He will introduce you to fellow-travellers in the hostel. 'Man,' you will say to your new friends, 'this is great!'

It's Sunday morning. You wake up to find Sikhs galore at the temple. By-passers gaze with interest. Traffic stalls to a standstill, almost. The day has drawn Sikhs from every nook and corner of the colony. The gathering is massive, a gala massive! You ask the first Sikh near you: 'Hey, how come so many Sikhs? Some kind of celebration, is it?'



Young and old alike attend His kirtan with zeal and devotion.

Indeed it's a celebration. Today is Sunday! It's an occasion for joy and happiness. An occasion to hold a feast. *A feast?* You bet, a feast. A woman asked God for a son; her boon was granted; today the temple feast in on her. Everybody is happy. It's a sight to behold. You're surprised to see so many nationalities. So many different languages. So much conversation and laughter, jokes and wise-cracking, you wonder what kind of a temple this is. You move along.

Just as you're about to say something, you are drowned by the mixed sounds of drums beating, cymbals crashing, harmoniums playing, male-and-female voices singing. Then you come upon a mob of teenagers and children playing in the courtyard overlooking the dining-hall. Here you see tea and cakes and sweetmeats being served by men and women eager to please. They serve and they chant: 'More tea, brother; please have another cup! Have another cake, sister; perhaps you would like some fresh milk for your children? Hey, you naughty boy, get your big mitts out of those sweetmeats before I make an example of you! Uncle, please stop that man from making an example out of me; I think he is going to hit me! Serves you right, you greedy pig: wait till I tell your mother . . .'

Next thing you know you are in there, deep in tea and things. From your vantage point you can see the kitchen; it is adjoining the dining-hall. You're interested. You see Sikhs, Punjabis, Hindus, Sindhis, Chinese, all told some thirty of them busy getting ready a sumptuous feast, in time, without fuss and bother. You discover they are make-shift cooks, volunteers, doing a job of love and pleasure. You can't wait for lunch, you're rarring to go. The aroma from the kitchen is having a mouth-watering affect. *Roll-on, midday, roll-on!*

The head-priest passes by. He sees a look on your face. He smiles and stops beside you. Your interest in the activities has pleased him. He draws your attention to the by-passers and the curious. 'Ah,' he says, 'if only they would join us for lunch. It would be delightful. Delicious food served in the name of God. They would also gain an experience: an insight into a doctrine so simple and so straightforward it has made the Sikhs a very complicated people.'

He pauses as he lets his gaze fall on the Sikhs standing in front of him. You become aware of the turbans in a sea of colours. You begin to notice the costumes of the women. The ornaments and the jewellery they are wearing. It seems as if the head-priest wants you to notice this. 'You know,' he says: 'the Sikhs were not meant to be complicated. But they are. Which is why they need a temple. Only here,

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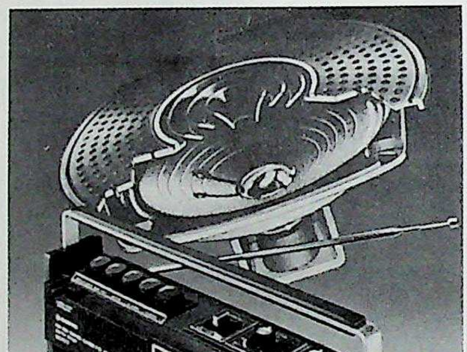

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THE INI

in the temple, when a Sikh sits next to a beggar or a banker, or a thief, or a liar, does he come down to earth. Here his worldly achievements don't give him special privileges.'

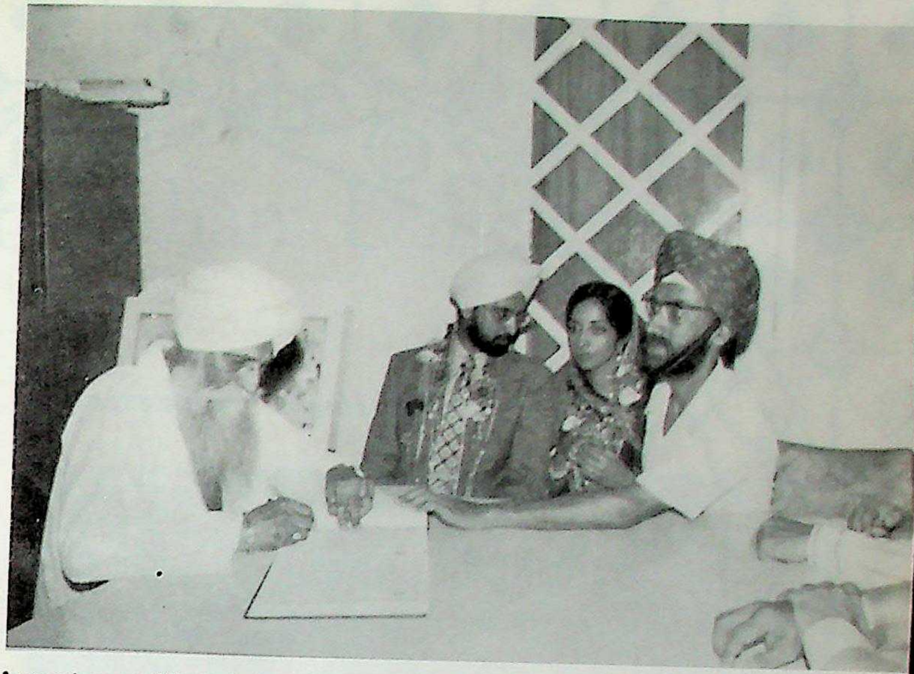
'It is a fortunate Sikh who is able to experience the essence of this Sikh doctrine known as *Khalsa.* The word *Khalsa* comes from the word *Khal.* It means purity. A person who is pure in deed and in thought is a *Khalsa.* I hope you are a *Khalsa.* Khalsa is a universal brotherhood. Anybody can join. One sure way to achieve this universal brotherhood is our *langar. Langar* is our open-free-kitchen, where friend and foe may sit side-by-side and overcome their hunger, their lust, their greed, their hate.'

He rolls his head back and gives out a mischievous laugh, adding, 'Notwithstanding the fact that they will be served with exotic vegetables cooked in rare spices and herbs, Punjabi *dhal* made from seven varieties of beans and peas, with that tittilating appetizer made from yoghurt called *raita,* with fresh ground *chutney* of onions and chillies and mangoes and green mint, then that exquisite rice-pudding known as *kheer,* all to be scooped in mouthfuls with hot chapatties *freshly* baked, as many as can be eaten, or taken home for the next day or the day after that, for food cooked in the *langar* is not to be leftover and wasted. Enjoy your lunch, my friend, the lady who is paying for the feast will be happy to see you enjoy your lunch.' He pats your back and walks into a crowd . . .

It is noon. The feast is in progress. The dining-hall is now the centre of attraction. Rows and rows of diners, in batches of two hundred and more, are spellbound, absorbed, enraptured by this food blessed in the name of God and the Universal Brotherhood He created. They are humbled. The Spirit of the Lord is with them.

You don't know the man sitting next to you. He is a millionaire. He is talking to the person sitting on his right. That person is a beggar. The beggar keeps interrupting the millionaire. You notice, that as the meal progresses, the beggar is doing most of the talking. If you could understand the language you would hear a fascinating and strange lore only known to beggars. The millionaire shakes his head feeling unworthy of such knowledge. Sitting in front of you, on the opposite side of the table is a Punjabi peasant. He is explaining to a Sindhi merchant how the textile industry of Hong Kong can triple its business. The Sindhi merchant is amazed by the shrewdness of the peasant.

Someone smiles at you. You smile back. He makes a comment. You agree. You look around. You feel you are expected to say something. You do. Next thing you know you are involved in a discussion. You are telling this stranger all your troubles, as if he was your long lost brother. He is. All over the world, in any Sikh Temple, you will meet many more such brothers. That's why people go to the Sikh Temple – to eat and chat and make brothers . . . kismet!



A marriage certificate being signed by Head Priest.

A devout Sikh doing 'chanvar' on the holy book.

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UDAY SHANKAR
Pioneer Of Indian Dance Revival

Uday Shankar, '50s.

Uday Shankar, 77, a pioneer in the renaissance of Indian dance and a dancer and choreographer whose highly acclaimed tours since the 1930s introduced thousands of Americans and Europeans to India's cultural heritage, died in Calcutta on September 26.

He lifted dancing in northern India from the morass of the vulgar bazaar nautch and restored it to its former dignity of an art form. He had set out in life to become a painter. Having attained some eminence in that branch of art, he came under the spell of Anna Pavlova, then Europe's leading ballerina, and decided on a dancing career – to the disappointment (and later unstinted admiration) of many including his teacher, the great Sir William Rothenstein.

As a dancer he was original, as a choreographer, idealistic. His genius was stirred, the end of his career, by the agonies of a diseased era.

He was the first person to present an Indian ballet with an Indian theme, accompanied by a musical score in which no foreign instrument was used.

SCHOOL OF DANCING

The school of dancing he originated was the outcome of a rigorous training in and deep study of classical Indian dancing, combined with his own creative genius. The result was a scintillating synthesis. His early choreography drew much inspiration from Indian temple sculpture on the one hand and, on the other, the presentation technique of the Western ballet. Notable examples of this synthesis were his famous items like "Shivatandava", "Gajasur-badh", "Kartikeya", "Indra" and "Labour and machine".

His main achievement was the blending of the Indian classical style with the various folk dances. Much of his inspiration came from Indian mythology which he recreated with his imaginative ideas about dress, decor and music in its many dimensions.

Uday Shankar was born in 1900 in Udaipur, where his family, originally from Jessore (now in Bangladesh), had settled. The eldest son of Dr Shyam Shankar Chowdhury, an educationalist.

Uday was sent to school at Varanasi and then to the J.J. School of Art, Bombay. In 1920 he went to England with his father and was admitted to the Royal College of Art, London.

BALLET GROUP

Although he faced considerable financial difficulties and much hardship, he succeeded in building up a ballet group for an Indian dance show. The first presentation

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of that group in India was at the Empire Theatre – now renamed Roxy – and he was immediately haled as an artist of exceptional sensibility both by the critics and the public.

In the early thirties, Alice Boner, a Swedish painter, helped him to organise a European tour with Indian dancers and musicians. This troupe included his brothers Rajendra Shankar, Devendra Shankar and the sitar maestro Ravi Shankar, who was then a dancer, his cousin Kanaklata, that talented French woman Simkie and even his uncle, Kedar Shankar Chowdhury. In 1935 he met Amala who he married six years later. After an extensive tour of Europe, Uday Shankar took his company to the USA and toured that country from coast to coast.

He founded the Indian culture centre at Almora in 1939. This was a residential school where music and dance were taught in an entirely original and strictly scientific method. It was around this time that the shadow-play "Ramlila" was first produced.

It was during this period that the seeds of the film "Kalpana" germinated in his mind. In this film, a landmark in Indian cinematography.

During the Tagore centena year of 1961, he produced Tagor "Shamanya Kshati" in ballet for The following year, he was made fellow of the Sangeet Natak Ac demy. He was awarded the Padr Vibhushan in January 1971.

NEW BULLOCK-CART COMING SOON

The Indian Institute of Management at Bangalore, in collaboration with the P.S.G. College of Technology in Coimbatore, and the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, is making efforts to modernise and redesign the traditional bullock-cart.

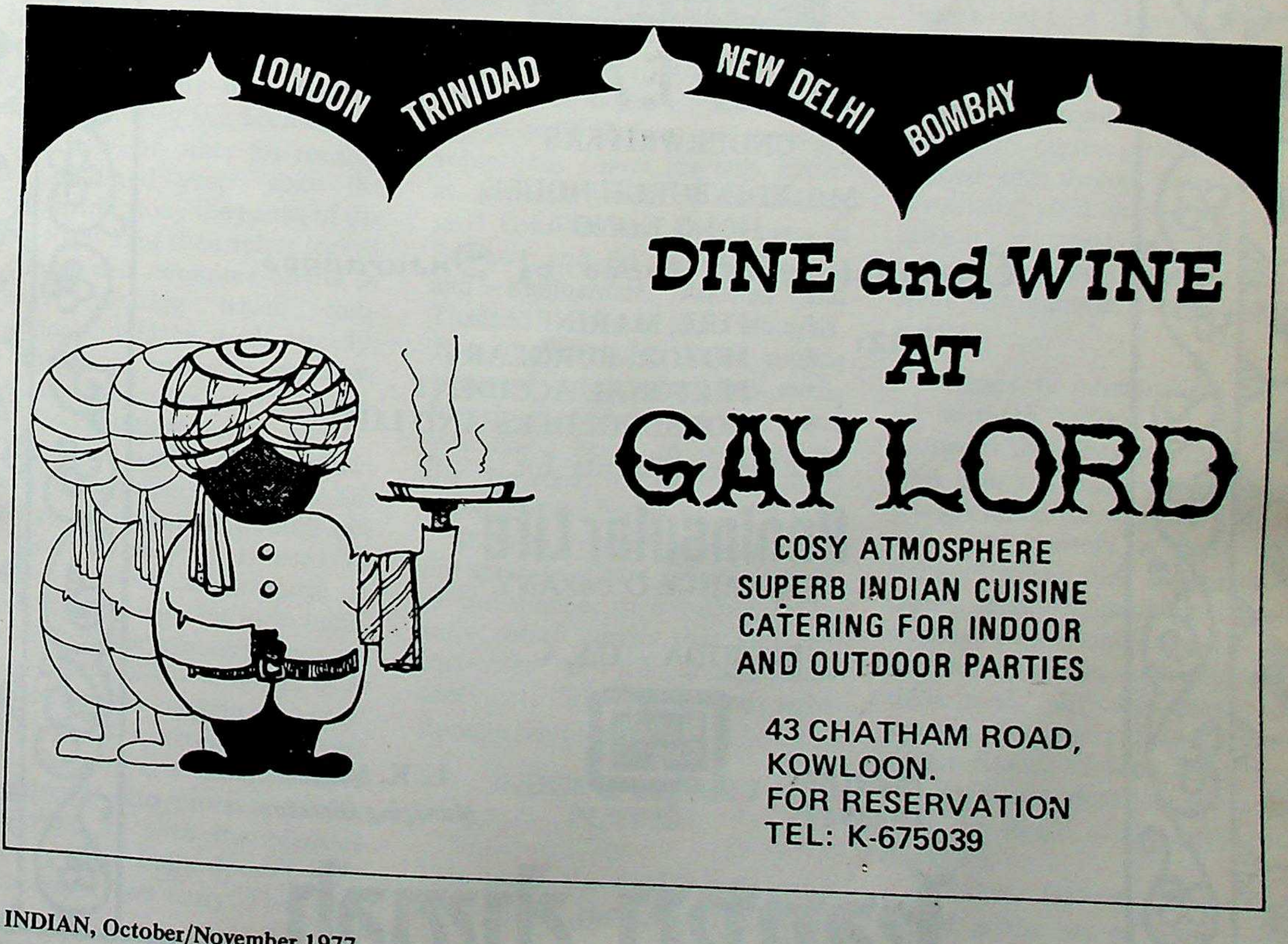
In addition to the Rs. two lakhs given for developing the prototype of the modernised bullock cart, the central government has assured another sum of Rs. six lakhs for studying the impact of the bullock cart transportation on rural development in the southern region.

Announcing this to reporters in Bombay the director of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, – Prof. N. S. Ramaswamy, said that "if the carrying capacity of the cart could be doubled, the income o villagers would also double" he said.

With the proposed modernisation the employment potential would als increase as artisans and repairer would also be in demand.

Mr. Ramaswamy said that th pressure exerted on the animal's neck reduces its life by 30 to 40 per cent. Efforts are being made to remove the load, so that the animal would have a bigger life-span, he said.

Prof. Ramaswamy said that th study of the modernised bullock car comes under an institute's programme known as "appropriate technology for the non-organised sector".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A Tour of Currylands

By Wendy Hutton

The colonels and captains of Calcutta and Cawnpore, of Madras and Mysore, started bringing the secret back to England more than two hundred years ago. ('Damned good stuff, y'know, a fella can't help develop a liking for it, what?') And so products such as Colonel White's Selim Curry Pastes and Major Grey's Chutneys acted as an introduction to the spicy delights of India.

The recipes shared by the curry-infatuated colonels were nothing new. In fact, they had been around in one form or other for roughly three thousand years, since the people living along the banks of the Indus River kept their spices locked in chests and consulted charts in Sanskrit advising which combinations should be used. Already, the ability of spices to stimulate heat-jaded appetites and help preserve food had been noted.

The new word, curry, which rapidly became part of the English language, came from the Tamil *kari* or 'sauce'. Today it is used to describe a much wider range of dishes that it is applied to in India, and has become synonymous with any hot spicy dish – although what most Westerners prepare as 'curry' is but a pallid imitation of the real thing. These days, as travellers delve more deeply into more countries, they come up with the pleasant discovery that India doesn't have the monopoly on curry. They also learn that curry is not a spoonful of pre-ground stale spices added, along with a handful of raisins and some chopped apple, to leftover meat. It isn't even necessarily hot.

It is much easier to say what curry is not than to define what it is, and there are probably as many different curries as there are types of women. How do you describe a beautiful woman? Is she a cool Nordic blonde whose blue eyes meet yours with a frankly appraising stare. or is she a black-as-velvet soft-as-night Madras maiden whose voluptuous curves are only hinted at beneath yards of shimmering sari? Consider such diverse areas as Sumatra and Sri Lanka, Kashmir and Kalimantan, Pakistan and Thailand, Burma and Malaysia. Then think of the almost endless range of dried spices and seeds, fragrant roots and herbs, sauces and seasonings. Pause to contemplate the varieties of fish and fowl, vegetables and lentils. . .

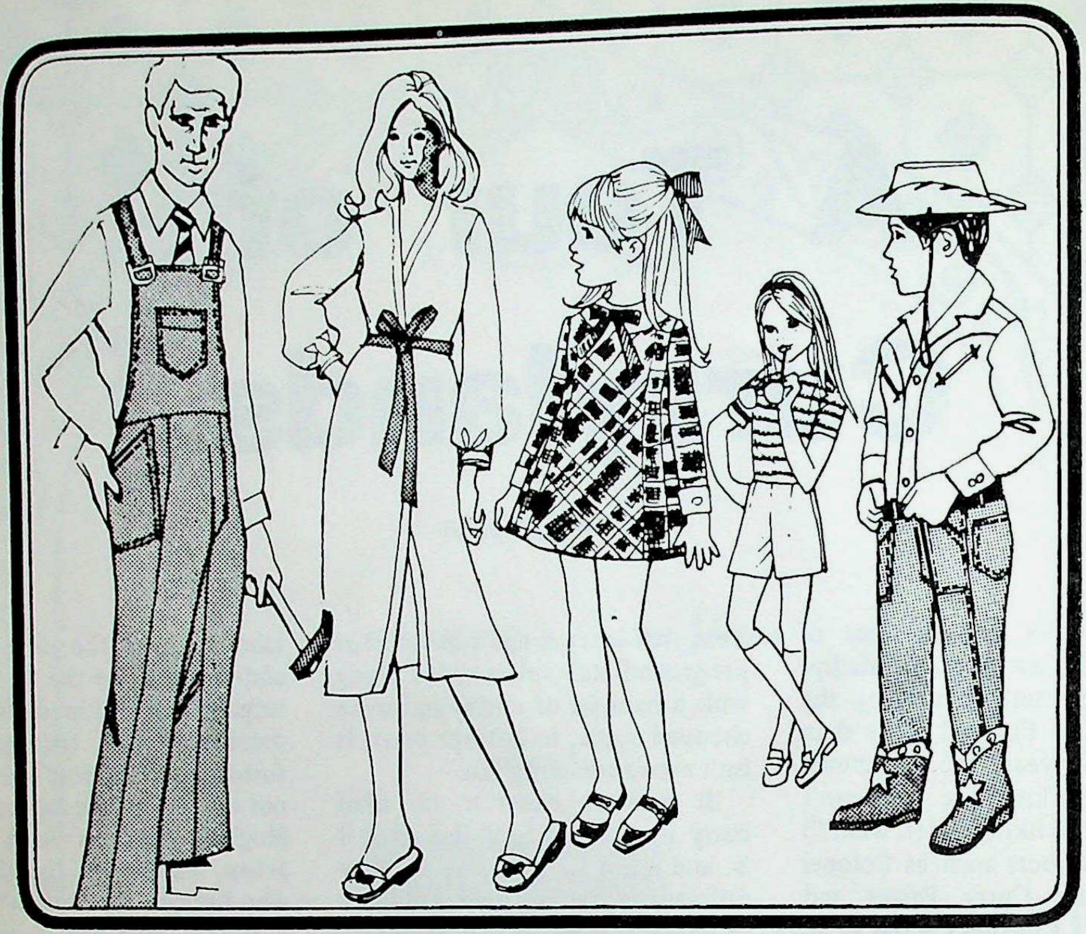
By now you're beginning to get the message. There is just no limit to the number of beguiling, brilliantly spiced curries that you can encounter in the Indian subcontinent, Sri Lanka, and right through Southeast Asia.

INDUS & GANGES PLAINS

In India, the food is influenced not only by climate and religious taboos but by the passage of me and empires. To the north, and neighbouring Pakistan, lamb is th dominant meat, for Muslims a forbidden to eat port and Hindus c not eat beef. There are reminders c Moghul emperors such as Sha Jehan, builder of the Taj Maha who brought the Persian Empire t northern India and, with it, mo than a hint of A Thousand and On Nights: fragrant rose essence wit images of poets and nightingales t heighten exquisite *pillau* an desserts; creamy lamb *korm* topped with slivered purplish-gree pistachios; vivid orange strands o saffron; plumped-out raisins sti tasting of grapes; tiny white popp seeds, like grains of sand, to thicke sauces.

Perhaps the most striking featur of northern Indian and Pakistan curries is that they are rarely hot This does not mean that they hav few spices. On the contrary, a typica dish may contain at least eigh standard spices such as cardamom cloves, coriander, cumin, cinnamon nutmeg, pepper and turmeric. Bu the heat of curries comes from the chilli used, not the spices, and many Westerners find that the milder flavour of food from these regions allows them to appreciate fully the magic of the spice combinations.

Another feature of northern curries is the use of *ghee* (butter



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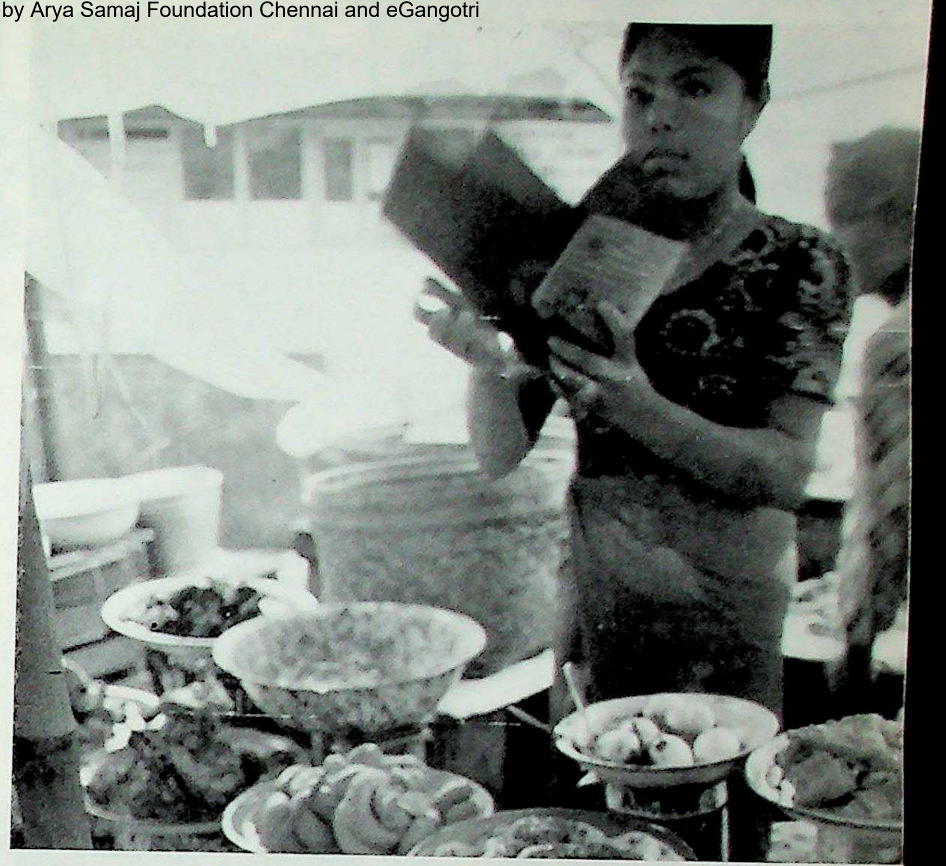
oil), cream and yoghurt. This, together with the subtle spicing and mild flavour, could earn northern Indian food the description of the *haute cuisine* of India, although southern Indian cooks may disparagingly describe such cooking as grossly extravagant! In regions of India where millions of coconut palms drop their juicy-fleshed nuts you will find coconut milk replacing the dairy produce of northern India. Spice combinations vary as well, with the fragrant 'black' spices (cardamom, cloves and pepper) giving way in southeast India to small brownish-black mustard seeds, blackgram *dal,* and a pungent leaf known as *karuvapillai.*

In the north, you will mop up your curry gravy with a *chapati* or *paratha* made from wholewheat flour or eat it with seasoned rice *pillau,* while in the south it will be accompanied simply by a mound of plain white rice. In Christian Goa, on the southwest coast, you can, if you have a cast-iron palate, tackle a fiery hot pork *vindaloo* cooked with such quantities of spices and vinegar that it will keep for days without refrigeration. In vegetarian regions you might be surprised by a curry combining home-made cheese and green peas, while in Bangladesh a typical curry could consist of spiced seafood cooked in mustard oil.

There is no such thing as 'curry powder' in India, for there is no single combination of spices used for all curries. Each basic ingredient, be it prawns or yellow lentils, chicken or cauliflower, lamb or lady fingers, is considered and the spices carefully chosen to enhance but never dominate the flavour of this ingredient. Housewives buy whole spices, which they grind with a stone mortar and pestle just before cooking. These dried spices are combined with 'wet' seasonings such as chillies, garlic, onion and ginger to form a *masala,* the basis of every curry. Most Indian housewives also make up a jar of ground mixed spices, *garam masala,* which is kept on the shelf for a month or so, and added to already-seasoned dishes at the end of cooking to heighten the flavour (in much the same way as a Western cook adds a little more salt and pepper to a casserole just before bringing it to the table).



Indian Kitchens, like those of every other curry country, are simple, even spartan. Utensils, too, are limited, although completely adequate: a mortar and pestle or grinding stone, a selection of straight-sided pans or *degchi,* a curved frying pan similar to a *wok,* perhaps an earthenware pot and a charcoal brazier or two; add a chopping block and knife, a coconut-shell spoon, a heavy griddle for cooking *chapati*, and that's it.

Are Indian curries difficult to cook? Let's take a common northern Indian dish, *rogan josh.* The first step is to prepare the whole spices by drying them in a pan over gentle heat to make them easier to grind. The ground spices (coriander, cumin, fennel, pepper, cardamom, cloves, nutmeg and white poppyseeds) are then mixed with powdered turmeric and set aside. The next step is to grind chillies, ginger, garlic and onio together with toasted coconut an almonds, the last two items addin thickness as well as flavour to th gravy. The wet and dry ground ir gredients are combined, and th resulting *masala* is now ready fo frying with sliced onions in lots o fresh golden *ghee*. When the cook' head is spinning from the heavenl fragrance that rises from th *masala,* yoghurt is slowly added t the pan, followed by choppe tomato. The whole lot forms thick spicy sauce ready for cubes o lamb, which will become saturate with flavour and perfectly tende after an hour or so of simmering Complicated? Perhaps – but taste i and you'll know that it was al worthwhile.

SRI LANKA

Have you ever considered eating curry made with hibiscus flowers or with fresh cashew nuts? In Sri Lanka (Ceylon) it seems that just about anything goes into the clay cooking pot and ends up tasting brilliant. The variety of curries and other food in this lush green island

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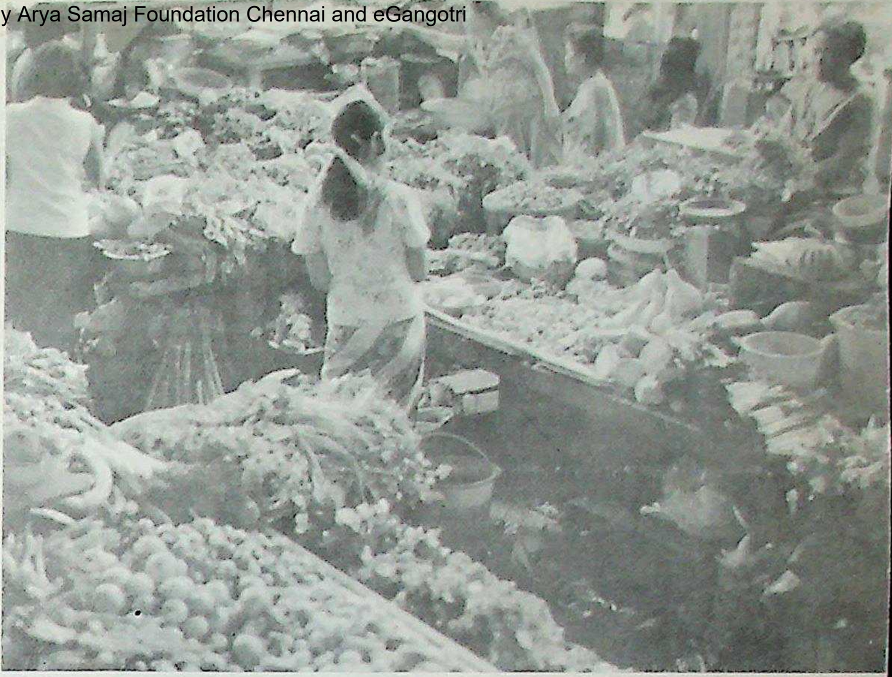

Vegetables for the curry pot in a Thai market.

at the foot of India is out of all proportion to its size, but when you consider the beauty and wealth offered by 'The Resplendent Island' to a succession of traders and invaders over the centuries, this is not surprising. Indian, Arab, Moor and Malay, Portuguese, Dutch and British, they've all come and gone, leaving their mark on the food.

Although Sri Lanka is such a near neighbour of India, its curries generally bear more resemblance to those of Malaysia and Indonesia. The superb lemony fragrance of lemon grass, the almost musky aroma of screwpine (pandanus) leaves combined with dried spices and lots of chilli and rich creamy coconut milk mark Sri Lankan curries as Southeast Asian rather than Indian. There is one unique feature, however, and that is the initial roasting of the basic curry spices until they are dark brown and aromatic. This gives Sri Lankan curries an almost black appearance, although this is often counteracted by enormous quantities of vivid red chilli.

Start talking about 'string hoppers or 'thunder bread' to expatriate Sri Lankans and chances are it will bring tears to their eyes. These quaint names are given to *appe* or *appam*, a type of pancake that ensures that not one drop of curry gravy will be left on the plate. Made with rice flour, yeast and coconut milk, 'hoppers' generally appear on the breakfast table along with coconut-milk soup and a coconut *sambol*. They may return later in the day with curries, different *sambols*, and sour pickles. The basic 'hopper' is baked over coals in a special curved pan. 'String hoppers' or *iddi appe* are a more sophisticated and lighter version where the batter is poured through a perforated mould to form lacy circles which are steamed. Either way, 'hoppers' add a special touch to the curry of your choice.

And what a selection to choose from! Apart from all the basic poultry meats and fish, there are the famous crab-meat curry, duck curry made with arrack or whisky and amusingly known as 'Padre Curry', lampries curry prepared from a combination of four different meats, curries made with liver, tripe, salt fish and eggplant, yellow pumpkin – the list is endless. If after all this you still have an empty corner, you can try Sri Lankan versions of Dutch *Breudher* and other cakes for solid Burghers.

BURMA

Perhaps it is because forbidden fruit is always sweeter that interest in a country grows stronger the more difficult it is to enter. Close off an area to the rest of the world for a few years and you can almost guarantee that once the door is re-opened, be it ever so slightly, travellers will be queueing up. And so it is with Burma. Or perhaps it is the romance of names like Mandalay and Irrawaddy, the vision of thousands of pagodas, wide brown rivers and vest teak forests. Whatever the reason, Burma is being rediscovered, and with it, yet another type of curry.

After the bewildering range of spices and styles found in India, Burmese curries are very simple. Dried spices are rarely used; instead, a mixture of pounded onion, garlic, ginger, chilli and turmeric forms the basis of every curr Another characteristic of Burme food is the use of a dried praw paste, *ngapi*. This pungent paste r appears constantly in Southea Asian kitchens: as *blachan* i Malaysia and Singapore, *trasi* i Indonesia, *bago-ong* in the Phili pines, *kapi* in Thailand and *ma* *tom* in Vietnam. Whatever you ca it, there seems to be general agre ment that before it is cooked, drie shrimp paste smells – well, revol ing. But once it is fried it is tran formed and in turn has a magica effect on any dish.

The Burmese love to serve a kinds of nibbles or condiments wit their main dishes: crunchy frie chick peas, dried broad beans pickles, chopped fresh green herbs crispy salt fish, and, most popula of all, a dried prawn condimen known as *balachaung*. The nationa dish, *mohingha*, is eaten every where. Try a bowlful sold by street vendor or enjoy it in a leisur ly fashion in a great old high-ceil inged teak house, where it is likely to be served with a wide assortmen of side dishes.

Whatever the accompaniment *mohingha* remains a relatively simple dish: rice vermicelli swimm ing in a bowl of curried fish soup The sliced vegetable cooked in the

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soup is actually the heart of banana palm. One whole tree must be cut down to provide roughly half a kilo of heart, but no matter, in this wet green land where you can almost hear things growing, there are always more banana palms.

THAILAND

The flavours of Thailand are as stingingly vivid as a monk's saffron robe: hotter than the fieriest Indian curry, sour as bitter lemons, and drenched with garlic. Here is where your nose receives as much stimulus as your palate, for the Thais have discovered a host of herbs, roots and leaves that give their curries and soups the most wonderful aroma. Fresh coriander is everywhere, not just the leaves but the pungent root too, constantly combined with black pepper and garlic. Lemon grass, the Southeast Asian favourite from which citronella is derived, is joined by the young leaves of a special fragrant lime tree – you could almost be eating orange blossoms when you sample a dish flavoured with these! A type of ginger root, sometimes known as Lao ginger or *laos*, is another popular seasoning, while mint-like leaves with an almost acrid taste are one of the herbs that give Thai food an inimitable flavour. With all these seasonings, Thais rarely bother with dried spices, unless they prepare what they term a 'Muslim' or *Masaman* curry.

There are three basic curry pastes, always freshly prepared, of course. They invariably contain chillies, fresh coriander, lemon grass and *laos*; if it is a 'red' paste, ripe red chillies are used, while unripe green chillies make a 'green' paste; 'yellow' paste gets its colour from fresh turmeric root. These pastes are generally combined with coconut milk and other seasonings selected to enhance the main ingredient. A chicken curry, for example, may have extra lemon grass plus lime leaves, while basil and fish sauce might be used for fish.

Thai wizardry in the kitchen doesn't stop with curries. Imaginative and wonderfully decorative salads are common, yet include all sorts of uncommon ingredients such as unripe mango and crisp water chestnuts or lotus root. These salads – and just about everything else apart from curries – are served with a hot, sweet-sour sauce known as *nam prik*, which contains dried prawn paste, garlic, chillies, palm sugar, lime juice and soya sauce.

The Chinese influence that can be detected in much of Thailand is even more prevalent in Cambodia and Laos. Although there are a few curry-style dishes using coconut milk and seasonings similar to those found in Thailand, Indo-China is not really curry country. Nor is the Philippines, where the indigenous cuisine concentrates on seasonings such as vinegar, pepper and fish sauce. There are, however, regions where the Malay influence is felt and coconut-milk dishes known as *guinataan* are prepared.

INDONESIA

It is tempting, and perhaps not too much of an exaggeration, to say that Indonesia has almost as many curries as it does islands – more than 13,000 of them! In such a spread-out archipelago with everything from steaming jungle to permanent snow, a wide variety of food is not surprising. To travel through Indonesia is to eat your way through dozens of food 'zones', for regional characteristics are still pronounced.

Bali is known and loved by thousands of travellers from all over the world, and those who have had a chance to try Balinese curry dishes find them quite distinctive. The most common style of cooking meat or fish, referred to as *masak Bali*, is to fry pounded onion, chillies, ginger, garlic and dried shrimp paste before adding the main ingredients, plus sweet soya, lime juice and a little water. Grated coconut is frequently used in Balinese food, but creamy coconut-milk curries are not found here.

For these you must move we to Java, where subtlety, sophistic tion and sweetness are the k words. The Javanese passion f sweet food (especially in centr and east Java) probably pre-dat the period of enforced cultivatic of cane sugar for the Dutch, for it the moist brown cakes of pal sugar from the aren palm that fir their way into soya sauce, dessert cakes, snacks, and even meat ar vegetable curries.

Coriander and cumin are th major spices used in Java; additio al flavour is given to curries b dried shrimp paste, onions, garli chilli, lemon grass and a type of ba leaf known as *daun salam*, a bathed in coconut milk.

Despite the fact that Maluk (the Moluccas) are the origin 'Spice Islands' that brought such scramble of explorers and trade right across the world from th sixteenth century on, spices ar scarcely used in the cuisine of th area. Nutmegs still hang heavy o the trees around the lovely bay c Ambon, but are bound for export the piles of cloves on the warehous floors are destined to end up i *kretek*, clove-flavoured cigarettes.

Sulawesi (the Celebes) produce some excellent curries, especially i Ujung Pandang (Macassar) and th northern city of Manado. Mad with coconut milk, lots and lots o *laos*, lemon grass, fresh turmeric basil or mint, many of these currie resemble the rich fragrant food o Thailand.

But for the ultimate in highly spiced curries, go to Sumatra Centuries of trade with Arab Indian and Chinese merchants have left the Sumatrans with a taste fo anything and everything delicious and different. Not only do you find the basic curry spices of coriander, cumin and fennel, but a host of others such as cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg , pepper, and star-anise. They all come together in West Sumatra in a region known as Padang, where the curries are among the most amazing food treats of the world. Think of

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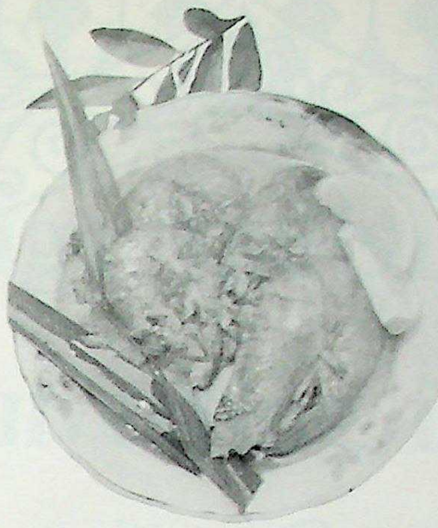
every spice, herb, root and leaf you can; add shallots, piles of chilli, and garlic; drench them with coconut milk then season and thicken with ground nuts and you're starting to produce Padang curries. Put in buffalo meat, liver, eggs, fish, unripe jack fruit, goat, chicken, or green vegetable . . . then eat!



MALAYSIA

Malaysia, just across the narrow Straits of Malacca, shares many of the culinary traditions of Sumatra. You will also find many Indian dishes brought by the thousands of Indian migrants who came to the Malay states during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Local Malay curries are based on a mixture of spices, the usual pounded onion, garlic, ginger and chilli, with some other herbs and fragrant roots, especially turmeric and *laos.*

There are lovely sour, hot fish curries *(gulai)* with a thin coconut milk yellow with turmeric; rich beef curries *(rendang)* dripping with spices and coconut oil that has been rendered from the extra-thick coconut-milk gravy; gently seasoned vegetable curries *(masak lemak)* and chicken in coconut milk with an Arab/Indian flavour *(opor),* Perhaps the best-known Malaysian dish is not a curry, but skewers of spiced meat grilled over charcoal and served with a peanut sauce: the ever-popular *satay.*

SINGAPORE

Our tour of the curry world en up in Singapore, where you w find just about any curry from a the countries we have travelle through. In restaurants and priva homes you will recall the flavou of India with dreamy, creamy Ka hmiri food, pungent Muslim dish from Bombay, or vegatarian cre tions from Madras; you will fir curries from Sri Lanka and eve from Burma; Thai food, the man different curries of Indonesia an Malaysia – all are available.

As if this weren't enough, ther is one last type of curry to be e perienced in Singapore. A blendir of Chinese and Malay, this food the result of the intermarriage c early Chinese settlers with Malay A *Nonya* curry combining por with coconut milk and tradition Malay seasonings will convince yo once and for all that there's just n end to the world of curry.

Courtesy: Silver Kri

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'HARSH REALITIES' Discourage Indians Abroad From Investing in India

The absence of a central co-ordinating agency to help Indians abroad to set up industries in this country appears to be the major stumbling block in attracting dollars and machinery, the Times of India reported recently.

"Many a potential investor has retreated in the face of numerous hurdles which he has found difficult to surmount. It appears that the story they tell on returning from India highlights the harsh realities of the situation and all those attractive advertisements urging Indians abroad to invest in India pale into insignificance," the paper said.

To prevent this trend and to encourage Indians to invest in their homeland, it is felt that special efforts should be made to create conditions favorable for investment.

It is also suggested that a comparative study be conducted to find out what other countries offer to foreign investors, and how India, with its vast natural resources and manpower, can compete with some degree of success, the Times said.

Ireland for instance, offers cash grants ranging from 40 to 60 per cent towards the cost of the fixed assets of new industrial undertakings, a two-year tax holiday, marketing facilities, training grants and facilities for raising capital at nominal rates of interest.

Canada too offers loans for constructing industrial units. These are repayable in each installments over 20 years. Moreover, it carries out a feasibility study for the investor and projects market trends and profitability over the next few decades. In addition, there are straight cash grants to make things easier for the investor.

The situation in India, however, is radically different. To start with, Indians abroad wishing to invest in their homeland feel that they are looked upon with some degree of suspicion, if not hostility, the report claimed.

This is specially so if the potential investor has no political patronage or "contacts" in the bureaucracy. He is made to feel as if he is an alien bringing back obsolete machinery to produce some consumer items with the intention of making quick and huge profits, it added.

Since most of these investors have lived abroad for several years, they get used to a certain level of efficiency and responsiveness from officials. They are quite naturally shocked by the callousness with which indifferent officials treat them and their problems.

And their problems multiply. They must have power, but the area is not connected to power line There is no water supply in the ne industrial area under developmen There are no roads, no sewage, n public transport facilities, no tel phones for miles around. Abroa they are given the impression th they will be given facilities on priority basis. Here, they realiz how low they figure on the priorit list.

Agencies like the India Invest ment Center, which has office abroad, have apparently provide little help to Indians settled abroad In fact, people who have visited th IIC officers abroad get the impres sion that the functionaries there d not make a dynamic and vigorou bid to persuade Indians to invest i India, the paper said.

"Instead," the Times charged "they just sit back in comfortabl furnished offices waiting for In dians to come to them asking fo information about the possible faci lities that they can hope to ge should they decide to set up a factory in this country. Similarly, it is well known that the 'communications' aspect has been generally neglected by Indian embassies and high commissions."

However, a survey conducted in 1974 by Charanjit Chanana, a member of the Rajya Sabha, revealed that the potential of mobilizing

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resources of Indian settlers abroad was very high and a co-ordinated effort could enable them to contribute to India's economic growth. Subsequently, Chanana set up the "Indian settlers home" and also compiled a directory of Indian settlers abroad listing names and addresses of 10,000 Indians in different countries.

With a little updating where necessary, this fundamental study could perhaps be profitably used to create the much-needed unified center to provide Indian investors with all the information they want," the Times stated.

The experience of R.N. Whig, an industrialist who chose to return to India after nine years' stay abroad, reveals the many problems that confront those who are willing to invest their dollars in India in preference to any other country where the conditions are much better.

Initially, he was verbally told, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) would charge anything between Rs. 20 (about $2.25) and Rs. 45 (about $5) per square yard for an industrial plot in the Okhla industrial estate. Later, the DDA wrote to him quoting a figure of Rs. 60 per square yard. When he protested against this high rate, which could upset all his project report estimates, the DDA told him he would have to pay Rs. 85 (about $9) per sq. yd. "This is like killing the proverbial goose before it lays the golden eggs," he remarked.

BAD TREATMENT

Whig had to fill in and sign a plethora of affadavits and declarations, and borrow money from banks at 16.5 per cent interest. For a car costing Rs. 38,000 (about $4,200), he had to pay customs duty of Rs. 95,000 (about $10,500) and file a bond supported with a bank guarantee of another Rs. 42,000 (about $4,600). The bank refuses to give this guarantee without a full cover, that is, without a fixed deposit for five years or so for the equivalent amount becaus the Reserve Bank of India has put squeeze on credits.

Whig's fully fashioned knitte outer wear garments factory there are only three of its kind i India – has equipment that he say is highly sophisticated and ele tronically operated with the help c computers. But the problem c power break-downs and fluctuating power supply continues t plague them.

"I had my first taste of nativ hospitality when I, as an entrepreneur wanting to invest in India was treated shabbily at the airpor The homecoming was soured up, he remarked.

But tenacity of purpose and hi plentiful resources helped him ove come the basic problems of wate power, roads, and sewage. All thi inflated the cost of his project. H points out that few others ca afford this kind of overspending. A least nine other Indian entrepreneurs returned disgusted, he tol the Times.

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MAURYA

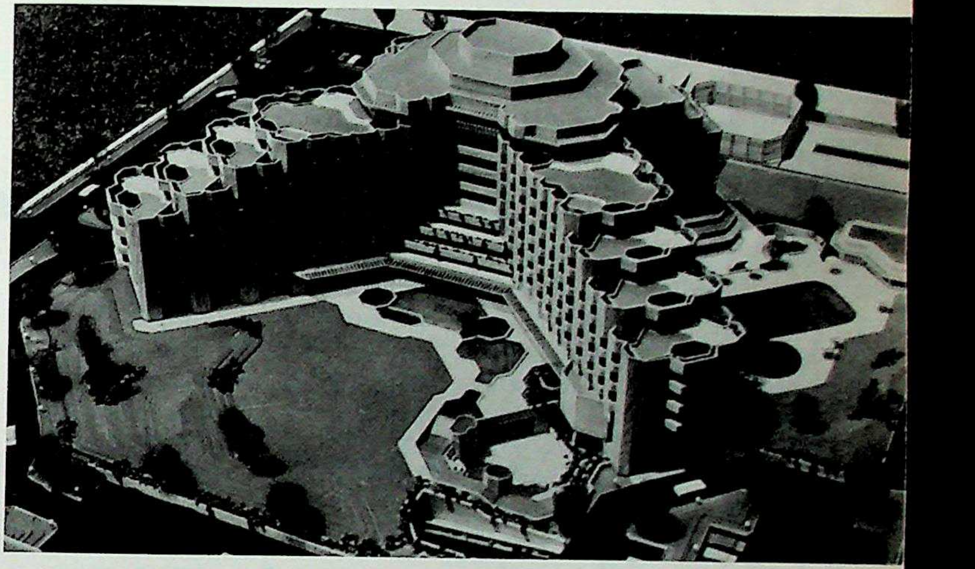
INDIA'S MOST LUXURIOUS HOTEL

By Asha Dhar

In India, hotel-building is lately conceived visavis refreshing thematic concept. The ITC Ltd., inspired by various dynasties of Indian history, concretised the concept with Hotel Chola in Madras (1975), Hotel Mughal in Agra (1976) and Hotel Maurya in New Delhi (1977). Each hotel has been named after an important period in Indian history and with that is associated the architecture, art, decor, cuisine and atmosphere that highlighted those periods.

Hotel Maurya, New Delhi, to be thrown open in November, 1977, and chosen to accommodate the majority of the delegates for PATA 1978 (January 23 to January 27), is one such splendid blend of classical concept in contemporary hoteliery terms. The unique architecture of this hotel has been inspired by the Buddhist stupas. Maurya is a seven-storey structure where Mauryan art and architecture have been used to evoke a feeling of grandeur. Its 310 rooms and 40 suites look out upon green landscaped environs and the lush city forest combining modern comfort with a fine sense of aesthetics. The hotel has an open leisurely air of the countryside and of tranquility that big city hotels have rarely been able to capture.

Graceful as the names they bear, Maurya's eight restaurants are distinguished, each by its speciality and atmosphere. *Samarkand* offers Tandoori specialities. *Amarpali*, the roof-top night club specialises in south-east Asian (especially Chinese) cuisine, with live music and dance. *Takshila*, another roof-top restaurant has Mediterranean food. *Mayur* offers Indian and Mughlai specialities. The *Cascade* is a snack bar adjoining the amusement Arcade. *Amrapali Vatika*, a 24-hour coffee shop, commands a fine view of the swimming pool. *Madira*, the lounge bar overlooks the landscaped waterway. *Chashak* is the roof-top bar, *Shatranj* the buffet restaurant. *Deepak Mahal* is a fully equipped banquet and conference hall for about 1000 guests. And, *Rishi* and *Manu* committee and party rooms have an attached theatre to seat 200 people.



About 10,000 sq. feet area is allocated for exhibitions where anything from jewellery to automobiles can be displayed. Its theatre-style arrangement has capacity for 1,000 guests, with a permanent stage.

Hotel Maurya is a multi-purpose resort for the visitors. At the *Kayakalpa* Health Club and Yoga Centre. the guests can have a refreshing rejuvenation session Maurya's *Kapila* swimming pool is the first one in India to be heated in winter by solar energy. And those on a shopping spree can shop at the Arcade which is fabulously stocked, or dance to the latest hits in the hotel's *Ghungroo* discotheque. It is, again, the first and only hotel in India with closed circuit colour TV in all rooms — with a choice of videotape cassettes.

The Maurya lobby offers a truly regal welcome to the visitor a fitting entry into a house of luxury and comfort. True to the theme of 'Welcomhotels', two folded hands in *Namaskar* pose at the entrance symbolise the traditional Indian way of welcoming the visitors. This artistic welcome is planned to be done up everyday with fresh flowers, exuding beauty and hospitality. The personalised service is an echo of the I.T.C. motto "We Enjoy People!"

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YOGA AND NEUROLOGY

By Prof. B. Ramamurthi

The science of Yoga has been well known and popular amongst the Indians for many centuries. Recently with the advancement of scientific methods of investigations of natural phenomena, the interest in the science of Yoga and its effects on man and his achievements has vastly increased. Yogis are able to perform their ordinary day-to-day actions in a much co-ordinated and efficient manner. In addition, they seem to possess powers that appear supernatural to the ordinary human being.

The basis of all mental as well as physical activity in any developed organism, depends on the integrity and efficiency of the nervous system. In the highly developed human being, the brain has evolved to such an extent that it is possible for man to comprehend the universe and to reach out to Mars and the stars. This underlying mechanism of mental activity namely the human brain is the central ganglion or the power house of the entire nervous system. When a person begins to practise Yoga of whatever form or type, he is able to influence his bodily activities through the nervous system. Changes occur in the functional activity of the nervous system in the form of better conduction of stimuli, improved integration of function between the various parts of the brain and the nervous system and a much more efficient control over the lower nerve centres by the higher levels of the brain.

The various chakras and the Kundalini which have been conceived by the yogis cannot be equated directly with any part of the presently known nervous system or the brain. However, the concept that when a yogi begins to achieve mastery over his mind and body, the Kundalini is stimulated and begins to rise and go through the various chakras, can have an analogy in the higher and lower levels of the nervous system. The ordinary bodily activities of digestion, evacuation, sex etc. are controlled by the lowest levels of the nervous system. At the slightly higher level, the vital functions like breathing and heart function are controlled. Above these come the centres for emotion – anger, fear, hunger etc. However these centres are superimposed on the cerebral cortex with its millions of cells that control the lower centres. It is indeed tempting to equate in a physiological sense the various chakras of the yogis with the various levels in the nervous system. The thousand-petalled lotus chakra bears a close analogy to the million celled cerebral cortex.

Recent experiments at the Institute of Neurology, Madras and elsewhere have shown that in yogic states of relaxation, concentration and meditation, changes occur in the brain which beneficially influence neural activity. This beneficial influence is not only over the nerves, but affect the various peripheral organs like the heart, lungs, digestive organs and the general biochemistry of the body and – most important of all the endocrine glands like the thyroid, pituitary etc. Hence there is enough proof to show that yogic practices beneficially influence the entire body. The nervous system shows better integration and efficiency. The body functions are better performed and the glands in the bod function more effectively. Th naturally helps to keep the bod in health. In early diseased state also, yogic practices definitely hel the body to recover its balance c function viz. good health.

There is no doubt that all thes are achieved through the mediatio of the brain and the nervous sy tem. For an organic neurologist an biological scientist like me, minc consciousness etc. are integral functions of the brain that are explicitl manifest. Thus any change in th mental function or conscious leve can only be through effectiv changes in the functioning of th human brain. Our present da knowledge of the human brair though vast and rapidly increasing is still today grossly inadequate t explain even simple processes lik memory and intelligence. Thus i will require a much greater knowledge about the functioning of the human brain before we can scientifically explain all the phenomena of yoga including the various supernatural powers or Siddis. At the present day, phenomena like extra sensory perception, telepathy etc. appear abnormal or paranormal. However, there is no doubt that when we know more about the functioning of the brain, these phenomena could be satisfactorily explained.

Yoga, therefore, influences all the aspects of human function through the nervous system and in yogic states experiments have proved that the brain and the nervous system are functioning at a much more efficient level than in the ordinary human being.

Courtesy – A.I.R., Madras

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UNITED KINGDOM

MAN KILLS DAUGHTER WHO FLOUTS CUSTOM

Birmingham – A Sikh father killed his 17-year-old daughter because she rejected an arranged marriage and defied tradition by choosing her own boyfriends.

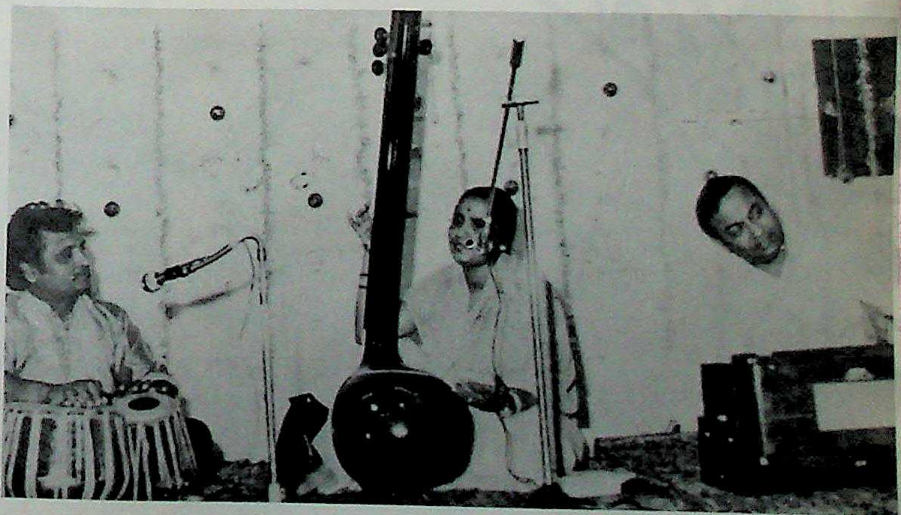
Jaginder Singh Gill, 48, strangled his daughter Charranjit while she was sleeping with a younger sister and dumped her body in a river.

Gill pleaded not guilty to murder. Defense counsel said Gill admitted causing her death but that the defense would seek a verdict of manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility.

Prosecution said Gill and his wife, who live in the Midlands town

All over the world Hindus celebrated Janmashtami recently. Similarly, Hindu Centre-London organised Havan Yaj, devotional songs and message from Swami Krishnanandaji and launching of Vivekananda Hindu University were some of the highlights besides singers from India and local added colour. Seen from l to r: Swami Krishnanandaji, Pt S.S. Sharma, Sri Kalia, Gen. Sec of Hindu Centre, Sri F.C. Sondhi, President of Centre, Sri K.K. Singh, Treasurer, Prof S. N. Bharadwai, Vice President, Sri Sood, Chairman of Marriage Council and Sri S.P. Kohli – Vice President are some of the officials of Hindu Centre London. The new generation seem definitely interested in the message.

Sri V.P. Kamitkar seen speaking on Janmashtami celebrations held at Hindu Centre, London where an appeal was made to set up Vivekananda Hindu University in U.K. A committee has been formed to look after the project.



One of the musical items presented on Janmashtami at Hindu Centre, London.

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of Wolverhampton, came from India about 10 years ago and adhered strictly to the Sikh faith. But their son and five daughters became westernized and changed their beliefs.

The daughter had switched her affections from a young Sikh to a West Indian, the court was told.

Gill was alleged to have told detectives he had strangled his daughter with a rope. Defense witness Dr. Fazal Rahman, a prison psychologist, said Gill suffered from depression caused by the marriage of his eldest daughter in a Christian church.

The psychologist said Gill's judgment was substantially impaired at the time of the killing.

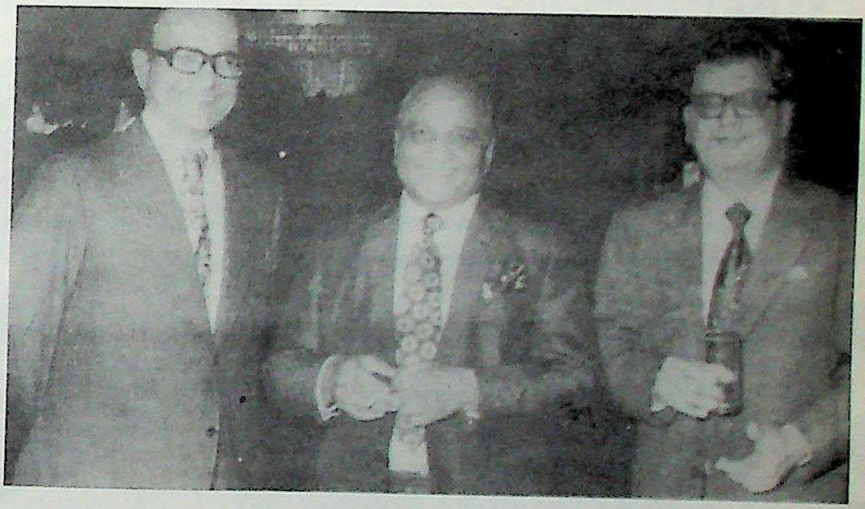
BANK OF INDIA'S NEW BRANCHES

On October 10 and 12, the Bank of India opened their 10th and 11th branches at Birmingham and Preston.

The Birmingham branch was opened by the City's Mayor, Councillor Mrs Freda Mary Cocks; and the Preston branch by Councillor Joseph Hood, the Mayor.

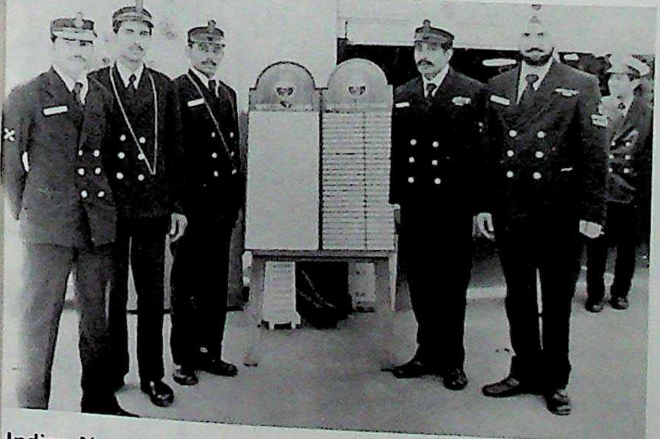
Mr D.N. Karanjia, Chief Manager, UK & European branches gave a reception on October 13 to meet Mr. C. P. Shah, former Chairman and Managing Director of the Bank. Many distinguished British and Indian persons in banking, commerce and industries, were present at the reception.

Snapped here is part of the large audience who attended the Janmashtami celebrations at Hindu Centre.



At the Bank of India's reception (from left) Mr D.N. Karanjia, Mr C.P. Shah and Mr H.S. Dhondy.

Photo: Madan Arora



Indian Navy Ship — 'Udaygiri' visited port of London recently on a goodwill visit to Europe and seen on board are some of the officers on ship's deck.

Some visitors to 'Udaygiri' in London.

Diwali Greetings

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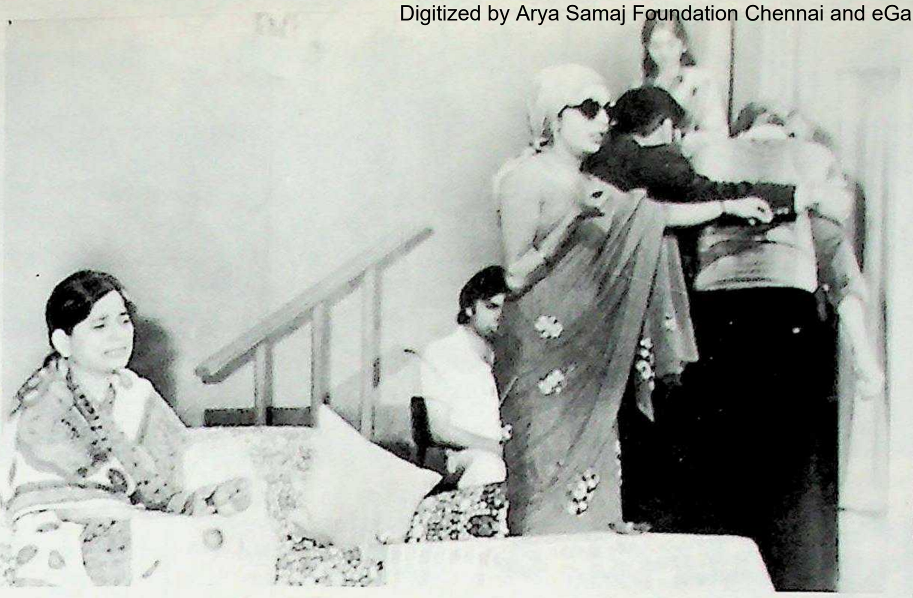
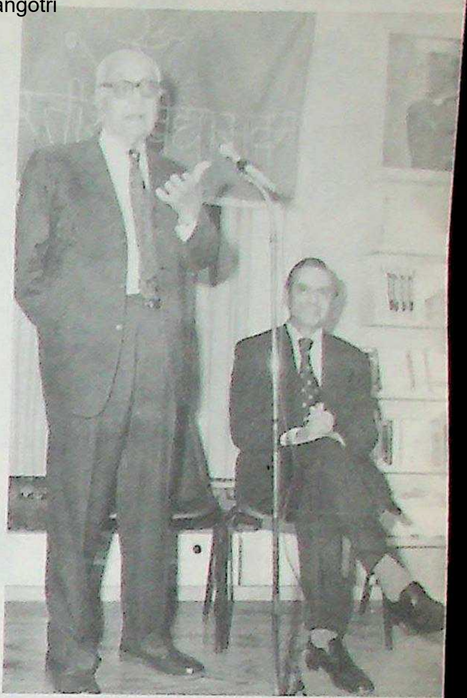
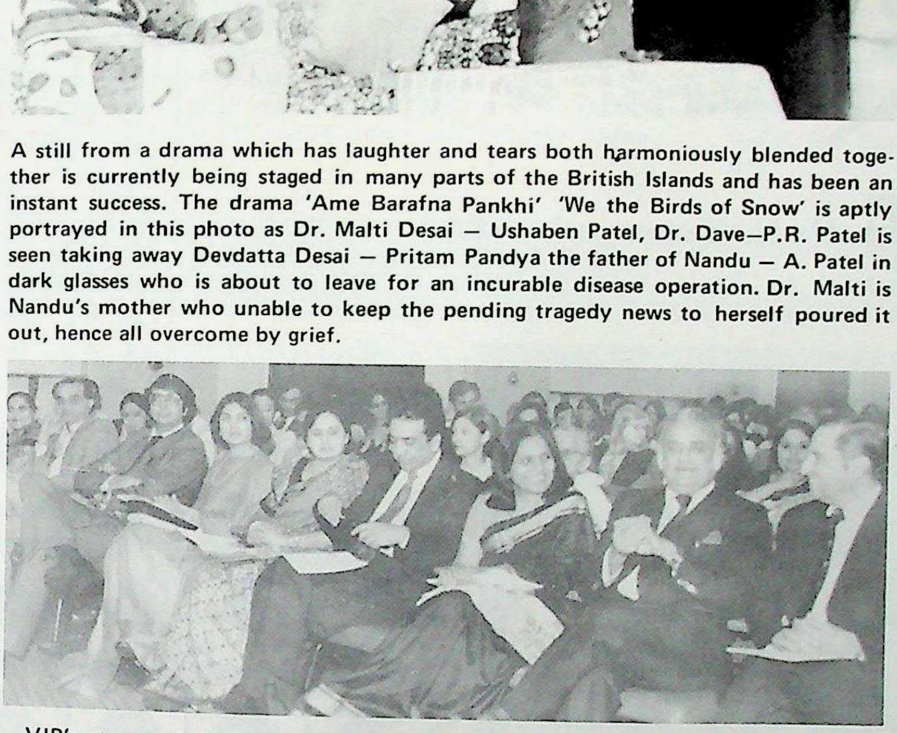


A still from a drama which has laughter and tears both harmoniously blended together is currently being staged in many parts of the British Islands and has been an instant success. The drama 'Ame Barafna Pankhi' 'We the Birds of Snow' is aptly portrayed in this photo as Dr. Malti Desai — Ushaben Patel, Dr. Dave—P.R. Patel is seen taking away Devdatta Desai — Pritam Pandya the father of Nandu — A. Patel in dark glasses who is about to leave for an incurable disease operation. Dr. Malti is Nandu's mother who unable to keep the pending tragedy news to herself poured it out, hence all overcome by grief.



President of Bhavan International Sri D.M. Khatau was given a reception by it's London Kendra. Sri Khatau observed the enthusiasm of Bhavan and complimented all for making such progress. The President was informed that London Kendra was looking for a building of its own to house its European headquarters. It has been learnt after the above meet that a building has already been located in London for the purpose and may probably be occupied before the end of 1977 and fund raising campaign campaign is afoot. In the photo Sri Khatau is seen speaking and Sri M. A. S. Dalal, Chairman of U.K. Kendra welcomed the guests. Gen Sec. Sri J. Gohel moved vote of thanks.



VIP's at one of the performances of "Ame Barafna Pankhi". Bhavan's Chairman Sri M.A.S. Dalal is seen on right of picture.

At one of the performances for Gujarat Samaj the artists were greatly appreciated and the entire cast were given tokens. President of Gujarat Samaj Sri D.D. Desai is seen on mike, Sri P. Pandya seen receiving his token. He plays Devdatta Desai in the now famous play "Ame Barafna Pankhi". Bhavan's drama section will produce same in Hindi and other Indian languages also. Requests to take the drama to other parts of Europe have already come in.

Pankaj Vora of Gujarati Sahitya Academy seen paying a rich tribute to Drama Director Sri N.C. Patel and actors and actresses who so surpassed their amateur status with each and every one's acting. From left: Pankaj Vora, Mathoor Krishnamurti, Sri Amin, President of Lions Club, Sri N.C. Patel and Sri J.K. Gohel, Vice — chairman and Hon. Sec of Bhavan.

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Sri D. M. Khatau, President of Bhavan International seen amidst Executive Committee and members of the cast of London Kendra's first batch of actors and actresses who are currently staging their maiden play "Ame Barafna Pankhi" in Gujarati and will be producing more plays in other Indian languages.

A surprise visitor to Bhavan U.K. Kendra was Sri Brijpal Varma, Minister of Communication from India recently. He was delighted to see Bhavan make good progress and wished it success in the field which are multifaceted in scope. The minister is seen in centre and on his right is Sri J.K. Gohel, Gen Sec. and Sri Mathoor Krishnamurti is seen on his left.

Photos: C. Govind

JAPAN

DOUBLE CELEBRATION

Mr. and Mrs. Sadhwani gave a big cocktail and banquet at the K.R. A.C. to celebrate the wedding of their son Deepak to Poonam, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Bob Harilela. It was also the birthday of Mr. Sadhwani and so it was a double celebration. Drinks were served on the lawn with a grand buffet followed by mouth-watering desserts, a cake to eat and dancing followed till the wee hours of the morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Ghansham Khemaney gave a dinner at the Mandarin restaurant in honour of Mr. & Mrs. Harkishin Bhojwani from Singapore. It was chinese cuisine which is always enjoyed by Indians all over the world.

Mr. & Mrs. Ashok of Shewa Bros. gave a grand cocktail recently at the French restaurant 'Blance de Blanc' in honour of his brother Raju who recently married Dolly and Mr. & Mrs. Deepak Sadhwani of Deenam's and Sadhwani's International. It was a big gathering and food to suit every palate was available. A separate barbeque corner, a curry rice corner, cold corner with desserts to follow. On the occasion their older brother

Raju — Dolly and Poonam — Deepu cutting their wedding cakes. Gope Shewa is on left and Saroj and Ashok Shewa seen on right.

Saroj and Ashok Shewa with their Kobe office staff and with brother Gope Shewa and overseas friends.

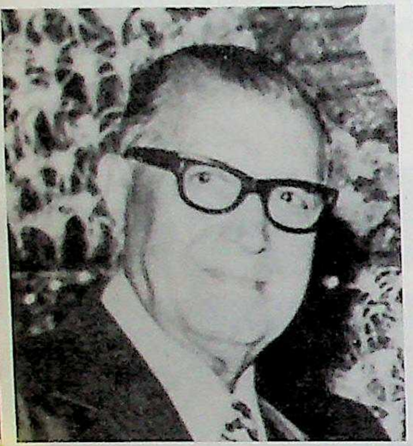
Gope Shewa from Canada was also bresent with his Canadian friends.

Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Shewa were ecently blessed with a son to omplete the family. It was a welome brother for pretty Priti.

Mr. and Mrs. Bhagwan Gulrajani of Gulraj International were also blessed with a son. Mr. and Mrs. Nari Daswani of Elpey Impex got heir first son on 7th November, a ittle brother for Neelam.

— Kavita Lachu

OBITUARY



Mr. Pessumal N. Chablani.

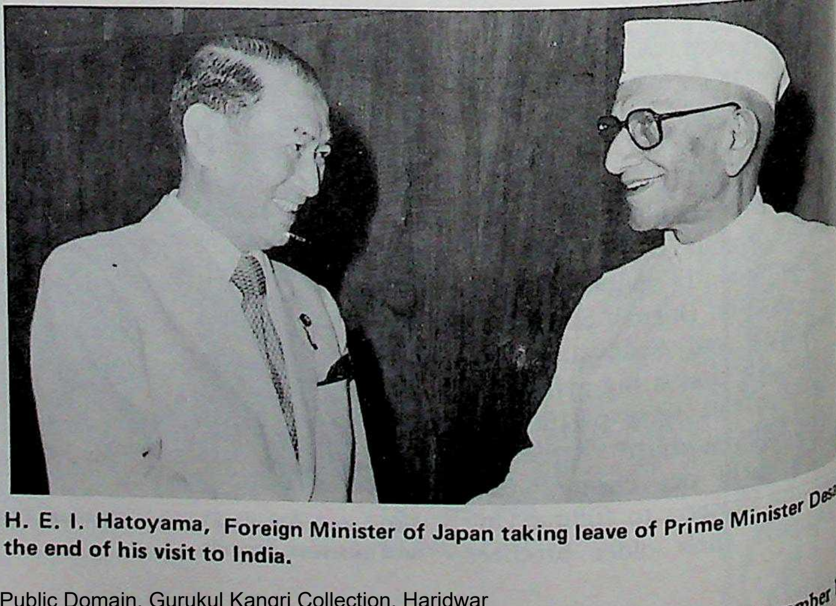
Mr. Pessumal N. Chablani beloved husband of Mrs. Gangabai, better known as ' Mummy ' to all, passed away peacefully at Bombay on 10th September, 1977. He has not only left his nine children feeling lost and lonely but also their families and lots of friends. He was friendly to the young and old alike, a staunch supporter of the Guru Nanik Darbar who regularly did the 'Asadivar' at the Guru Mandir every week. Rain or shine, Dada would be at the temple at 11.00 a.m. every Sunday to open the Guru much to the surprise of all the Punjabis and Sindhis as well. His sons Mr. Shyam Chablani of Las Palmas, Mr. Lachu Chablani of Elpey Impex – Osaka and Mr. Hiro Chablani miss the fatherly guidance and help and support of his being.

May his soul rest in peace at God's Lotus feet.

At a recent dinner party at Gaylords in honour of Mr. H.K. Rattan by Mr. & M Bharwani are seen from l to r : Mr. Bharwani, Mrs. Roop Bharwani, Mr. H.K. Ratta Mrs. N.M. Ram and Mr. Ram.

Mr. & Mrs. Motwani cutting their surprise Silver Anniversary cake. Looking on Mr. Moti Bharwani, Mr. H.K. Rattan, Mr. Dial Gidwani and Mrs. Nisha Thadani. & Mrs. Moti Bharwani gave Mr. & Mrs. Motwani an anniversary cake to cut to th surprise. The charming couple wanted to secretly celebrate amongst themse thinking nobody remembered. But nobody forgets friends anniversaries.

SAYONARA



H. E. I. Hatoyama, Foreign Minister of Japan taking leave of Prime Minister Desa the end of his visit to India.

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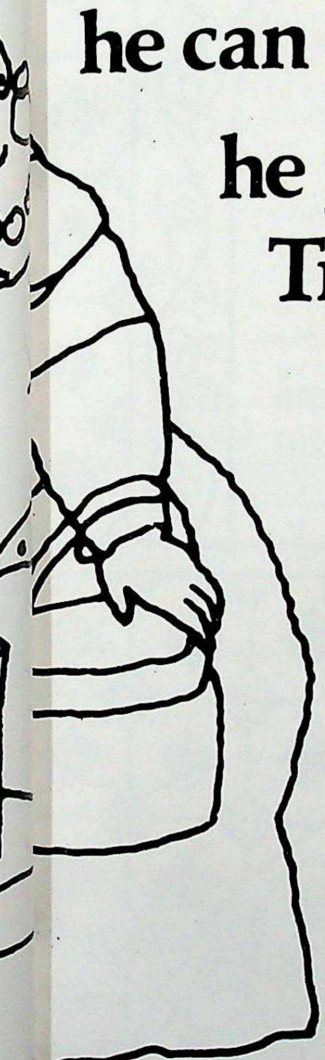

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enger with excess baggage,
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he helps to flex their elbows and all is whole again.

He will juggle figures with the ease of a computer. The total weight of his 747 won't be a kilo over 351,000 kgs. And when a family of tourists comes off a flight, not speaking a word of English or Hindi, his sign language will guide them to a hotel of their choice.

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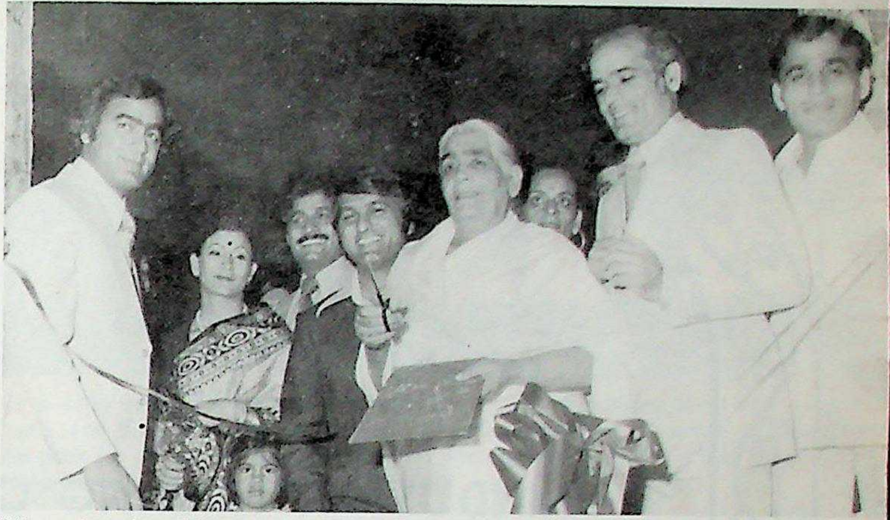
GRAND OPENING IN ST. THOMAS

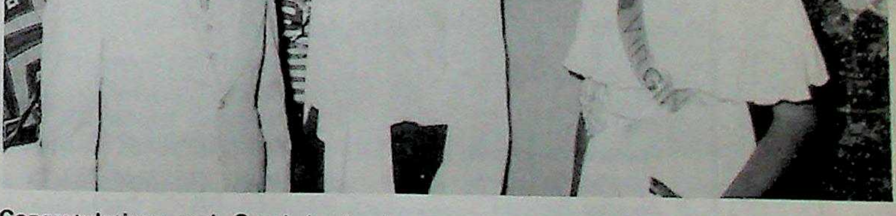
The successful Hemrajani Brothers opened a third subsidiary store to Artland Inc. in St. Thomas on August 15, 1977. The house of Jewels is appropriately named "Gem Palace". The Hemrajanis who are continuously expanding their business in the Virgin Islands already own Angelina Gift Shop and Shoppers Paradise which are flourishing successfully. Mr. Roy Hemrajani – St. Thomas's popular businessman is the President of Artland Inc.

The entire Hemrajani family was here in St. Thomas to witness this grand opening and the ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by Mrs. Devi G. Hemrajani – Chairman of the Board. A huge reception was held to celebrate the occasion and it was very well attended by the Indian community as well as local residents. Among the distinguished guests present were Mr. Alan Pestell – Manager and Vice President of Barclays Bank International Limited – St. Thomas, Mr. Isidore Paiewonsky – owner of 'Riise's' – one of the largest stores in the Virgin Islands. Also extending best wishes to the Gem Palace on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands was Miss. Virgin Islands 1977, Denise George.


Witnessing the ribbon-cutting ceremony by Mrs. Devi Hemrajani are some of the members of the Hemrajani family. From left to right: Roy, Shoba, Tony, Nick, Mrs. Devi G., Nirmala, Albert and Ram.

Well wishers and friends enjoy champagne as they toast the opening of the new store.

Mrs. Devi G. Hemrajani and daughters, from left: Nirmala, Sheela and Shoba snapped outside "Gem Palace"


Congratulations and Good Luck also went out to the "Gem Palace" through President Roy Hemrajani from Miss Virgin Islands 1976 – Lorraine E. Baa, President of the Lioness Club of St. Thomas – Marven E. Lynch and Miss. Virgin Islands 1977, Denise George.

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HONG KONG

CONCLUSION OF SPIRITUAL MISSION FOR PEACE

Dadi Prakashmani – Head of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University has now completed a world wide tour of the Raja Yoga Centres and is once more in the homeland Bharat.

Dadi Prakashmani – Head of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University.

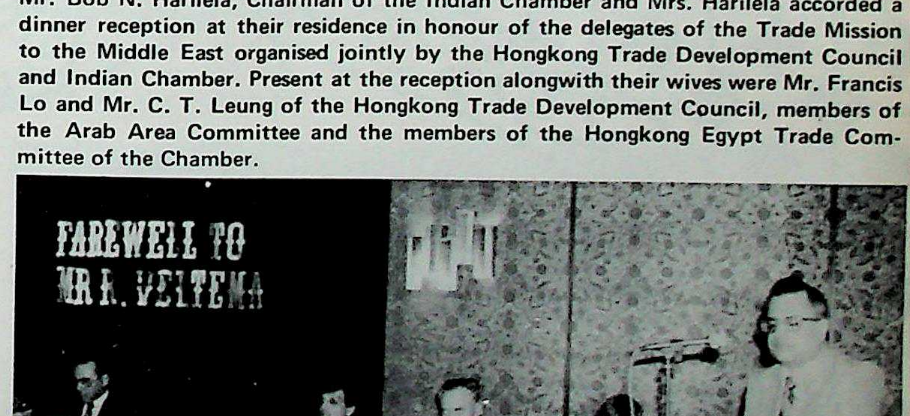
While she was in Hong Kong tremendous interest was shown by the residents with many attending lectures and several groups taking instruction courses in meditation following Dadiji's visit. Young and old have been attending courses conducted by sister Jayanti from the London Raja Yoga Centre, who remained here for few weeks after Dadiji's departure.

This was the first time that a woman has undertaken a peace mission of this type and Dadi Prakashmani's tour took her across the five continents and meetings took place on many levels. There were personal interviews with various heads of state, including the Prime Ministers and Presidents of Guyana and Trinidad and the mayors of Mississauga – Canada, Bulawayo – Rhodesia and Sydney and ministers in Mauritius who also hosted programmes for Dadiji.

Dadiji was accompanied on the entire tour by Brahma Kumar

At a programme hosted by Mr. Hari Harilela at the Holiday Inn Hotel at which Dadiji and Brahma Kumari Jayanti and Brahma Kumar Ramesh spoke on Raja Yoga, the path for perfection are seen from left: Mr. Hari Harilela, Mr. H.C.S. Dhody, Dadi Prakashmani, B.K. Jayanti and B.K. Ramesh.

Mr. Bob N. Harilela, Chairman of the Indian Chamber and Mrs. Harilela accorded a dinner reception at their residence in honour of the delegates of the Trade Mission to the Middle East organised jointly by the Hongkong Trade Development Council and Indian Chamber. Present at the reception alongwith their wives were Mr. Francis Lo and Mr. C. T. Leung of the Hongkong Trade Development Council, members of the Arab Area Committee and the members of the Hongkong Egypt Trade Committee of the Chamber.



A farewell luncheon was recently held at the Topaz Room, Holiday Inn Hotel in honour of Mr. R. Veltema, Regional Manager –ABN Hong Kong. Seen welcoming the guests is the host Mr. Hiro K. Panjabi of M/s. Asian Gem Distributors Ltd. Seated are from left to right: Mr. R. Veltema, Mr. M.K. Mangalmurti, Mr. W. J. Slagter and Mr. A. W. Wernas.

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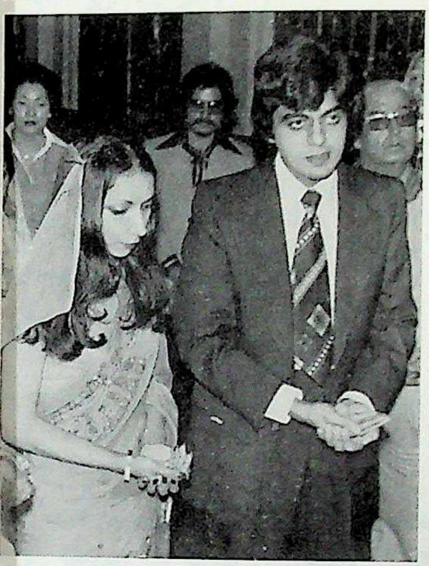
Ramesh, the managing trustee of the world renewal spiritual trust. Students of Raja Yoga throughout the world were given inspiration by the practical activity of Dadiji, revealing the qualities of a perfect Raja Yogini – the combination of love and sweetness together with absolute discipline and spiritual power. Many newcomers have taken up the teachings of Raja Yoga as a result of hearing the message and seeing it demonstrated in life.

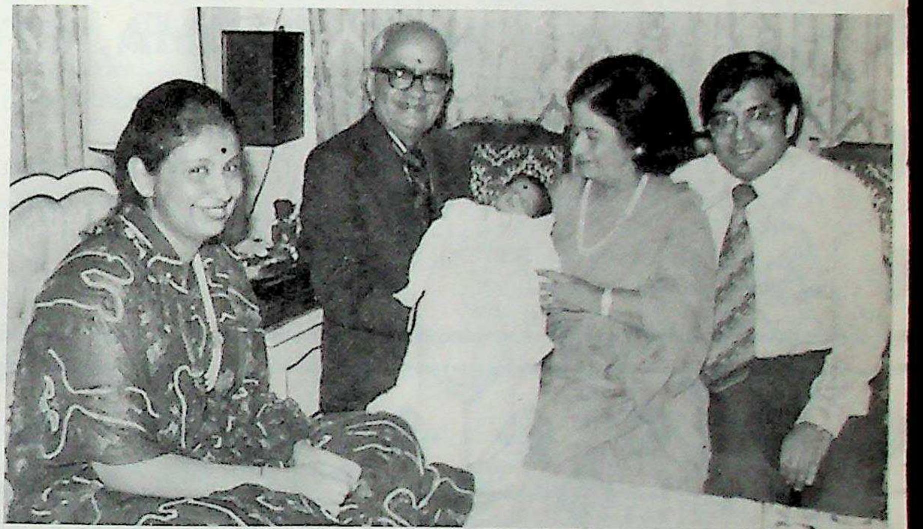


Charming Miss. Raju daughter of Mr. & Mrs. H.B. Mangho was engaged to one of Manila's dashing businessman Mr. Ramesh, son of Mr. & Mrs. Lokumal Mirpuri on 7th November, 1977. The happy couple is snapped during the engagement ceremony held at the Hindu Temple, Hongkong.

SAL MUBARA VIKRAM
PPY N EAR T

Seen at a recent Diwali function posing as Radha – Krishna are Kavita and Nehal Kirit Shah.

To welcome the new Indian Commissioner to Hong Kong Mr. M.K. Mangalmurti and Mrs. Anjani Mangalmurti a cocktail party was held at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Seen at the occasion are from left: Mrs. Padma Harilela, Mrs. Anjani Mangalmurti, Mrs. Lita Sital and Mrs. S.A. Ram.



Mr. & Mrs. J. Mulchand were recently blessed with a grandson and to celebrate this joyous occasion they held a cocktail on 14th November, 1977. The proud grand parents are seen holding the new born as the parents Ritu and Deepak smile happily.

Mr. R. Pichai – General Manager of United Commercial Bank was recently in Hong Kong and a luncheon was held in his honour by Mr. V. Panchapakesan – Manager UCB Hongkong. Seen at the occasion are from left: Mr. M.M.L. Tandon, Indian Commissioner Mr. M.K. Mangalmurti, Mr. R. Pichai and Mr. V. Panchapakesan.

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HK INDIAN TYCOONS BUY SINGAPORE OBEROI HOTEL

The prestigious 560-room Oberoi Imperial Hotel in Jalan Rumbia, Singapore, overlooking the famous Lord Subramania Temple in Tank Road (or Chettiars' Temple as it is popularly called), has been sold to the Jhunjhnuwala Brothers of the Hind Group of Hong Kong for about S$37 million (approx. Rs.131m). According to a report in *The Straits Times* of Sept 5, the bid was made jointly by Mr. C. Lal Jhunjhnuwala and Oberoi Hotels as its management company for the hotel. They beat the other strong contender All-Nippon Airways when bidding closed on Aug 31. Although six or seven parties had indicated their interest to the receiver, the number of actual bidders was narrowed down because of certain stipulations of the tender. One of these was that the new owners must honour all contracts which the previous owners had entered into.

Although the hotel had been offered for sale since October 1975, it was only at the beginning of August this year that closed bids were called when the asking price of S$35 million appeared to be acceptable to some parties, the source added. The hotel had been advertised for sale in leading international newspapers by the receiver, Mr. Douglas Beaton of Turquand Youngs since last year. Mr. Beaton was appointed the receiver following the failure of the owner company, Imperial Securities International, to meet the demand notice of Commonwealth Development Finance for the repayment of a loan of more than S$11 million.

During the past year several parties had negotiated with the receiver, but they were unable to match the asking price. The sale to the Hind Group ended months of speculation that All-Nippon Airways would take over the hotel with Sheraton Hotels as its management company. Mr. Beaton has handed a letter of acceptance of Mr. Lal Jhunjhnuwala's bid, which was accepted on behalf by the law firm of Ramdås and Wong. Mr. Jhunjhnuwala and Mr. M.S. Oberoi, chairman of Oberoi Hotels, were in Singapore on Sept 4 for discussions on future plans for the hotel.

SINGAPORE'S NEW ENVOY TO INDIA

Meanwhile, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Haji Yaacob bin Mohamad, has been named Singapore's next High Commissioner to India. He succeeds Mr. Kenneth Michael Byrne. Haji Yaacob, who is a Malay (native Muslim), will continue to hold the rank of Minister of State on his assuming his appointment shortly.

Singapore's new envoy to India, Haji Yaacob bin Mohamad.

Formerly a Malay language and Islam teacher, Haji Yaacob, 52, was elected to the Singapore Legislative Assembly for the Bukit Timah constituency in 1959. He was appointed Parliamentary Secretary (National Development) that year and transferred to the Prime Minister's Office as Parliamentary Secretary in 1961. In 1963, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly again but for the Southern Islands this time and reappointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister. In 1965, he was appointed Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office) and has been holding the post since. Three years later, he was elected to the Singapore Parliament for the Kampong Ubi constituency.

He was the first ambassador to the Philippines which post he held from 1969 to 1971. He was elected MP for Kampong Ubi a second time in 1972 and again in last year's elections. Haji Yaacob has been given foreign awards. He received the Order of the Republic by the then President of the United Arab Republic, the late Jamal Abdul Nasir in 1962. He was also made the Datu of the Ancient Order of Sikatuna by the President of the Philippines in 1971.

MIC SAVINGS SCHEME FOR INDIANS

In Kuala Lumpur Deputy Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad officially launched the MIC (Malaysian Indian Congress) Investment Fund One of the MIC Unit Trusts Bhd. on Sept 7. (Bhd is short for Berhad, and means "Limited") In his address, Dr. Ma-

Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad.

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hathir Mohamad said that the Government would continue to stress the implementation of Third Malaysia Plan programmes aimed at reducing the "incidence of poverty" so as to permit individuals to save their income for investment. One of the most effective methods of investment was through the unit trust system, he said.

The Deputy Prime Minister noted that the First Investment Fund was a result of one of several recommendations adopted at a seminar of the Malaysian Indian Congress held in May 1974. Its objective was to increase the equity holdings of Malaysian Indians in the productive assets of the country. He suggested that the First Investment Fund should not be confined to Malaysian Indians of the upper income bracket. The fund should also be directed to the lower income groups, he said. Otherwise, he said, this investment fund was likely to aggravate further disparities of equity ownership and income within the community.

TO ERADICATE RURAL POVERTY

Mr. Mahathir urged managers of the Fund "to locate those poverty groups" where the representation from the Indian community was significant and attempt to mobilise their savings for productive investment. "This is the only viable method by which the investment fund can contribute towards the eradication of rural and urban poverty among the community in the country," he added. Through these efforts also, he said, the fund will contribute significantly to the objectives of the New Economic Policy – reducing "the incidence of poverty" from its present 50 per cent to 29 per cent by 1990. The National President of the MIC, Tan Sri Dato V. Manickavasagam, who is also the Minister of Communications said the MIC Unit Trusts would operate to harness the savings of all the Malaysian people and to channel them into productive investment. He said the involvement of the Indians in the capital market would benefit the country as a whole.

Jack son of Mr. & Mrs. Raj. T. Dhalani of M/s. Sindhi's Singapore, celebrated his 2nd birthday on 18th August, 1977.

M$5 MILLION FUND EXPECTED

Unit shares at M$1 each will be available for purchase at par value in the next three months at a minimum of 100 units. A director of MIC Unit Trusts Bhd. Mr. K. Pathmanaban, who is also Deputy Labour Minister, said that Fund One was expected to accumulate about M$5 million. He described the fund as an attractive source of investment for both large and small savers as the returns were expected to be "more than modest." Consultants would be appointed to advise on investment of the funds collected and on ensuring that the shareholders' interests were protected at all times. Mr. Pathmanaban said that Fund One, in harnessing the savings of particularly middle and lower income groups, would help Malaysians acquire a stake in the modern corporate sector of the country's economy.

Following are members of the Board of Directors of MIC Unit Trusts Berhad: Senator Tan Sri S.O.K. Ubaidullah (chairman), Mr. K. Padmanabhan, Mr. R. Shanmugaveloo, Mr. Kishenchand Tirthdas, Mr. K.V. Murthy Yerkadithya, Mr. T. Subbiah and Mr. Chelliah Selvarajah. Registered office is First floor, MIC Building, No.1, Jalan Rahmat, off Jalan Tun Ismail, Kuala Lumpur.

INDIAN BUSINESSES IN MALAYSIA

According to figures just released by the Registry of Businesses in Kuala Lumpur, Indians (who form about 10 per cent of the population) owned a total of 22,547 businesses in Malaysia as at end of last year. These were exclusive of joint ventures and comprised 18,540 sole proprietorships and 4,007 partnerships. This was an increase of 1,745 over 1971, in which year Indians owned 20,802 businesses (17,069 sole proprietorships and 3,733 partnerships).

Chinese-owned businesses last year numbered 154,230 (113,714 in 1971), Malays 55,160 (24,549), and others 804 (497).

The above figures were exclusive of joint-ventures which, according to the Registry, totalled 4713 last year. Until 1974, they were categorised under "others."

– G.S. Muthukrishnan

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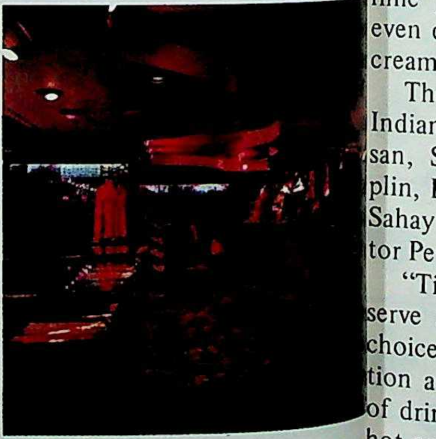

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TIFFIN – A ONE-BOTTLE BAR

Tiffin, a new 70 proof liqueur made from India's famous Darjeeling teas, was launched in the American market at a party at the Indian Consulate in New York City Sept. 27.

The liqueur is distilled by Anton Riemerschmid of West Germany and imported by Shaw-Ross Importers, Inc.

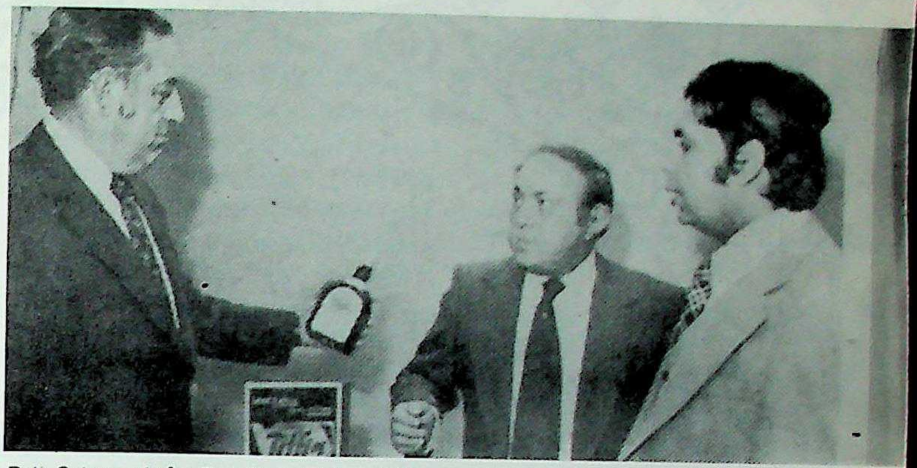
It was introduced to trade and press representatives at the Consulate, whose reception hall was festooned with cloth hangings and wore a carnival atmosphere for the day.

The liqueur, which has a distinct flavor of tea, was served in different combinations, together with spicy Indian snacks.

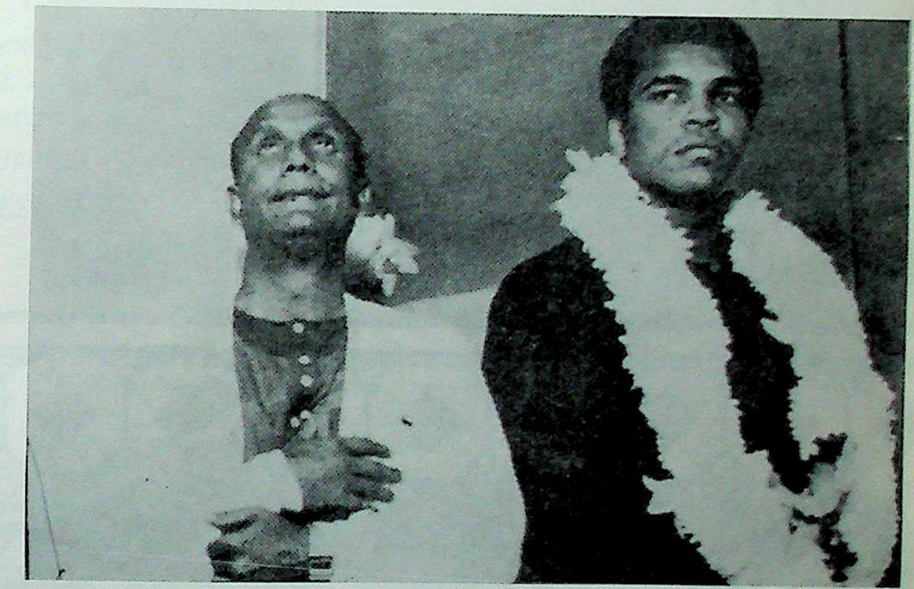
There was "Tiffin Tiger" (with ice and bitter lemon), "Tiffin Punch" (with lime juice, brown sugar, rum and soda), "The Kanchenjunga Cocktail" (Tiffin with lime juice, brandy and ice), and even desserts (Tiffin with vanilla ice cream, fresh fruit, or yogurt).

The guests were welcomed by Indian Consul General K. Srinivasan, Shaw-Ross president R. Chaplin, Indian Tea Board director Brij Sahay and Air-India regional director Peter Mahta.

"Tiffin has a unique ability to serve as the alcoholic beverage of choice in almost any social situation and can enhance a wide range of drink and food recipes, including hot and iced tea," Chaplin said in a press statement. "It is, in itself, a one-bottle bar."



Brij Sahay of the Tea Board (r) and Harvey Chaplin and Budd Keller of Shaw-Ross admiring bottle of Tiffin liqueur.



Muhammad Ali, wearing a garland given to him by Sri Chinmoy, director of the United Nations Meditation group. The two meditated for an hour September 29 morning at Ali's apartment in Manhattan. Ali fought Ernie Shavers that evening – a fight in which he retained the World Heavyweight Boxing Championship title.

HOUSTON AUDIENCE HAILS SUBBULAKSHMI

Peerless vocalist M.S. Subbulakshmi and her troupe received a standing ovation from an enthusiastic audience at their performance of Indian classical music in Houston.

Subbulakshmi and her daughter, Radha Viswanathan, sang selections in various Indian languages, accompanied by Guruvayur Dorai on the mridangam, and Alagiriswami on the violin.

The concert was organized by the Hindu Worship Society of Houston. Dr. G.S. Sudarshan, an eminent particle physicist, was the guest of honor for the evening function, which was attended by nearly 500 people.

AGARBATTIS WITH FRUITY FRAGRANCES SOON

The smell of oranges and pineapples need no longer be associated with the presence of these fruits – you can get it by simply burning agarbattis.

Indian manufacturers exporting agarbattis to 90 countries are now specialising in incense sticks that emit fruity fragrance. The smell of oranges and pineapples is specially meant for the Americans who prefer them to traditional agarbattis based on floral fragrance.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

INDIAN RESTAURANT IN PRAGUE

ITDC S FIRST OVERSEAS CONSULTANCY

Formal agreement for technical assistance by India Tourism Development Corporation to the Czechoslovak State Restaurant Company in setting up and running an Indian Restaurant in Prague was signed recently. To be named "Mayur", and expected to be commissioned at the end of the year, the Restaurant will give the Czechoslovak people a taste of Indian cuisine in an Indian setting.

ITDC is providing the designs furnishings, cutlery, menus and graphic items as well as management personnel including a Deputy Chief of the Restaurant, one hostess and two cooks. A see-through Tandoor in a specially glazed cubicle will enable guests to see how roomali and tandoori rotis are made apart from other tandoor delicacies.

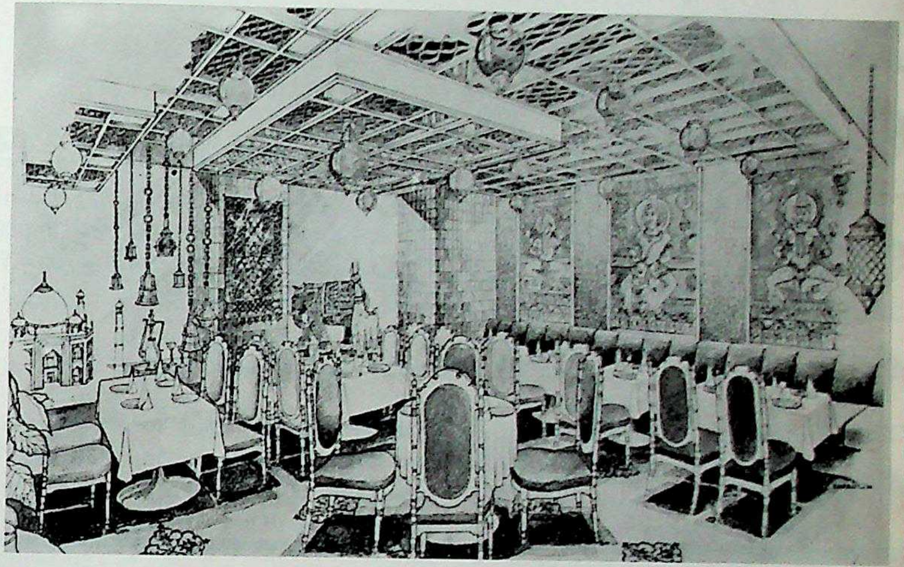
The interiors will be traditionally Indian. There will be a false ceiling decorated with Indian motifs. The floor will be covered with hand made carpets of bright coloured floral designs. Decorated space dividers and hanging lights with brass finish and bead curtains will add to the Indian touch.

The furniture, while being functional, is decorative and in antique finish with moulded legs and seat backs. The wall treatment will be a composite of brass, mirror and kalamkari panelling. A long window, opening out on to one of the main streets of Prague will give passers by a peep into India's arts and crafts. On display will be bell-strings, wooden sculpture, Bidri work, metal lamps (diyas) and a marble replica of the Taj Mahal.

To begin with the restaurant will seat 30; there is provision for another 20 seats later.

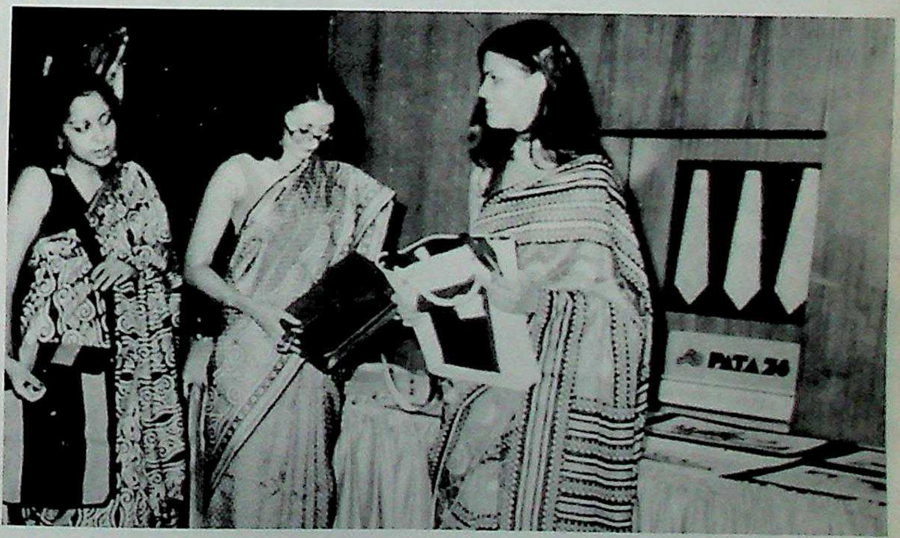
The agreement was signed on behalf of ITDC by its Chairman and Managing Director, Mr C B Jain and for the Czechoslovak company by the country's Commercial Attache, Mr Pavel Treka. It follows the decision taken some years ago by the Governments of India and Czechoslovakia to promote tourism between the two countries. A two man team consisting of an ITDC hotelier and an architect visited Prague at the invitation of the Czechoslovak partner to work out a project report.

This is ITDC's first overseas consultancy and Mayur is the first Indian restaurant in Eastern Europe.



Artist's impression of the Indian Restaurant "MAYUR" in Prague, Czechoslovakia, ITDC's first overseas consultancy.

CAN YOU SPOT THE WINNER FOR PATA '78



At a meeting of the Publicity, Promotion and Gifts Committee for the PATA '78 Conference in New Delhi, members deliberated on special designs for the traditional Indian Saree to be used by PATA guides and Usherettes. Designs for PATA '78 ties and conference kit bags were among other items examined. An audio-visual presentation depicting preparations for the Workshop and Conference and the many attractions in the region was also reviewed. Sets of this presentation have been sent to Government of India Tourist Offices in New York, London, Geneva, Tokyo and Sydney to be used at future promotional meetings for PATA '78.

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MAURITIUS

RECEPTION IN HONOUR OF MR KAILASH CHANDRA

Addressing some five hundred people at the Mauritius India Friendship Society on 4th September, 1977, the new Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius, Mr. Kailash Chandra and the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam emphasised the accent of the Indo-Mauritian cooperation on economic and cultural plan.

Firstly Sir Seewoosagur declared that he is totally for an "international level collaboration" for the maintaining of peace in the Indian Ocean.

For his part, Mr. Chandra talked about Indian Aid to under-developed countries. "This is not the case with every country helping under-development programmes and some", said Mr. Chandra, "make high and low commitments towards the economic Independence of the poor countries". He cited certain examples where industrial countries have tried to discourage implantation of pharmaceutical industries in the Great Peninsula.

Mr. Chandra, also indicated that his Mission to Mauritius is to end with uniting more adequately the friendly ties between Mauritius and India.

The new Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Kailash Chandra (left) seen having a discussion with Sir S. Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius.

PAVING THE WAY FOR THE FIFTH HINDI DRAMA FESTIVAL

The Second Seminar in view of the 5th Hindi Drama Festival being organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports was opened at the Anse La Raie Youth Training Centre on 2nd September, 1977. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Harrydeo Ramchurn, Minister of Youth and Sports.

This time some 150 participants coming from the North discussed 'Play Production' with emphasis on the basic principles of acting, set design, lighting and culture and sanskrit drama.

Among those who addressed the Seminar were Mr. Mohan Maharishi, Theatre Adviser; Professor Ram Prakash, Chairman of the Hindi Drama Committee; Mrs. Nundkishore and members of the Drama Unit of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

- Nasseem Ackbarally

FRANCE

DESAI IN PARIS

The Prime Minister met members of the Indian community in Paris during his recent visit abroad.

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VIRGIN ISLANDS

YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME

Beautiful St. Thomas located in he Virgin Islands is more or less a mini' Hong Kong surrounded by ea and hills and lovely scenic spots omparable to Hong Kong. Indians s usual are found in every nook nd corner of the world and here oo there are about 40 shops owned y Indians who have adjusted themelves to the local market and are ontinuously expanding their busiesses. There are about 120 Indian eople here who actively particiate in local functions and play a najor part in local activities.

Mr. David Mohanani, a dashing usinessman in St. Thomas started radio programme here for the enefit of Indians so as to make hem feel very much at home lthough thousands of miles away rom home. This programme is on he air every Sunday from 6 p.m. nd is immensely popular.

Mr. David Mohanani – always lending a helping hand with local activities is one of St. Thomas's leading businessman.

Community gatherings are freuent and very enjoyable and peole here are like one big family with o formalities. Visitors are always elcome and as one businessman orrectly described St. Thomas ying "If you want business with leasure – come to St. Thomas".

Pictured here at a recent gathering are some of the local Indians in St. Thomas.

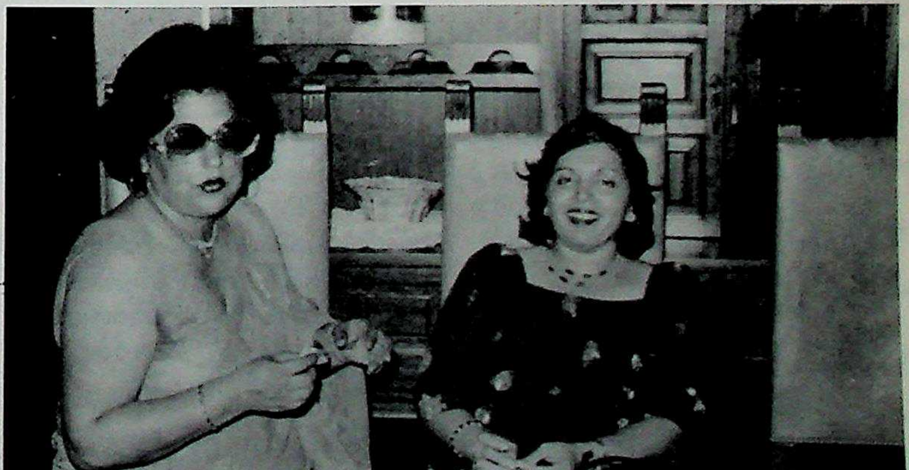
NEW VENTURES

As usual St. Thomas had a nice summer, while many residents were off island for their vacation either to their motherland or Hong Kong, we had many visiting us on this sunny island of St. Thomas.

Hemrajani family had the most visitors for the opening of their new business "Gem Palace", Mr. Roy Hemrajani welcomed his mother Devibai, his three sisters Shobha, Nirmala and Kamlu, alongwith his brother Arjan from Hong Kong, Ram from Bombay and Nick and Toni from Los Angeles who specially arrived to celebrate the opening of the new shop.

Popular brothers Aju and Manu Daswani of Montegobay – Jamaica also opened their new business "Royal Caribbean" which is being very well managed by their brother Prem Daswani. Aju Daswani held a grand cocktail party at their residence to celebrate the opening of their new business and over 100 members of the Indian community here joined in the gaiety.

With Indians continuously expanding their businesses in various parts of the world, Mr. Bhagwandas Dadlani from Toronto – Canada arrived here in St. Thomas to open his new business "Jackson Boutique". An "English Shop" has been



Pictured at a cocktail party hosted by successful businessman Mr. Aju Daswani are seen from left: Mrs. Sheila Mohanani and Mrs. Manu Daswani.

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pened here recently by Mr. Pishu adlani of Ocho Rios, Jamaica. Mr. al Hemrajani of Hongkong also isited St. Thomas and started his usiness "Shalina Imports" while Ar. Kishin Sukhija opened a Selection House". We wish all our usinessmen every success in heir new ventures and look forard to seeing them progress coninuously.

Thaku and Neesha Baharani held 'Satyanarayan Pooja" at their ouse in Frenchman Bay which was ttended by most of the Indian ommunity and also by Mr. Moochand Mahtani of St. Maarten.

Since the Indian community in t. Thomas has increased so have ur activities, which will be given to eaders from time to time.

— David Mohanani

Monesh and Rajesh Mohanani celebrated their birthday on 25th September, 1977 by holding a party by the pool side. They are seen here joined by Sheila and several friends who gathered around to watch them cut their birthday cake.

CANADA

AK ENVOY'S ATTACK ON INDIA IN MONTREAL

Notwithstanding the Simla ccord of 1972, whereby India and akistan agreed to live as good eighbors, the Pakistani Ambassaor to Canada, Dr. Afzal Iqbal, has hosen to indulge in some uncalledor allegations against India.

Irked by a reference to India's artition as "an unfortunate agedy" and the creation of akistan as "a terrible idea" by wynne Dyer, a distinguished reign affairs commentator, in an ticle in the *Montreal Gazette* cently, Dr. Iqbal gloated over e so-called two-nation theory in stification.

Writing in the same paper, the kistani envoy aired his personal ejudices and, in the process, went it of his way to make a scurrilous tack on India's secularism and ised the bogey of Kashmir.

Laying stress on "the 1,000 ars of profound religious, cultural d social differences dividing the o nations of the subcontinent, i.e. Muslims and Hindus," Dr. Iqbal said: "During the British colonial rule, India had no doubt stood united. However, this unity did not lead to a more comprehensive synthesis between Hindus and Muslims. The creation of Pakistan was not artificial; what was artificial was the forced unification of India under the British rule. The birth of Pakistan was a realization of the universally respected principle of national self-determination."

HIGH COMMISSION'S REPLY

The Indian High Commission, in a mild rejoinder, reminded the envoy of the tragic events of 1971 which culminated in the majority of Pakistan's Muslims carving out a separate nation, Bangladesh, for themselves. This, it said, was a sad commentary in itself on the two-nation theory and today there were more Muslims in secular India than in theocratic Pakistan.

Kashmir and the imaginary threat of invasion from India, the High Commission pointed out, have remained fundamental to the dialectics of Pakistan's mythology, consistently used by the reigning priests to diver the attention of the masses from their internal problems.

India, the High Commission reiterated, recognizes the existence of Pakistan as a fact of history and geography and sincerely desires its continued stability because it is in her best interests.

'ARTIFICIAL STATE'

Characterizing the formation of Pakistan in 1947 in the wake of a communal holocaust as an "absolutely terrible idea," Dyer, who had spent some time in the protective custody of the Pakistani Army in 1963, in his article asserted that the "artificial state" of Pakistan, whose only unifying factor was the common Islamic faith, had never gained its balance. It had stumbled from one military intervention to another, and in 1971 broke up into two with its eastern wing becoming an independent Bangladesh amid further nightmarish massacres.

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Dyer attributed the prevention f a neat solution to dispersion of Iuslims throughout India, adding hat as many Muslims were left in ndia as inhabited Pakistan. In ecular India neither have they been ictimized nor has Hindu extrenism ever taken over.

Without partition, Dyer felt, the ubcontinent would today have een a united country of 775 milon people living together in relave peace and security. Certainly nere would have been no wars and o enormous waste of money on rms, and they all might have been njoying the democratic heritage hich India had managed to preerve. It was 30 years too late to nake amends, but, concluded Dyer, akistan was not only a tragedy but robably a needless one.

PANEL BACKS CANADA INDIAN'S CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION

Ottawa – The Public Service taff Relations Board has administered a sharp reprimand to the Federal Department of Health and Welfare for discriminating against an employee of Indian origin, Sant P. Singh, because he was a Conservative Party candidate in the 1974 Federal elections.

P.S.S.R. Board adjudicator J.D. O'Shea agreed with Singh, an economist in the statistics branch of the Health and Welfare Department, who had complained of being denied a promotion because of his political affiliation. O'Shea ordered that Singh be given a raise retrospectively from January 1, 1975. The total back pay Singh becomes entitled to comes to $3,700.

•

The evidence at the inquiry showed that when Singh's advancement to the higher pay bracket was being considered by the departmental assessment committee evaluating his performance, it had specifically referred to his electoral contest against Thomas Lefebvre, Liberal M.P.

After Singh was defeated as a Tory candidate, his superior officer suggested to him that he should look for employment elsewhere that might be more in line with his political leanings.

Singh said he had completed the formality of obtaining permission for his leave of absence for the duration of his 1974 election campaign.

HINDI CLASSES

Parents' groups from Etobicoke and North York have announced the starting of Hindi language classes for schoolchildren in Toronto according to a press release of the Indian Immigrant Aid Services.

Classes may be scheduled on weekdays after school or on weekends, the release said. The Etobicoke classes will be held at Fairhaven Public School (Dixon and Islington) and the North York classes at 84 Clansman (Finch and Leslie).

Readers interested in participating in the program may call the Immigrant Aid Services at (416) 651-1400.

USSR

INDIAN CURRY FLAVOR IN MOSCOW

After scorching palates in virually every other European capital, ie fiery Indian curry has finally onquered Moscow.

The Indian culinary bridgehead the Tsentralny Restaurant, on ntral Moscow's Gorky Street, hich is being transformed – with e aid of chefs from Delhi's statevned Ashoka Hotel – into the st Soviet curry house as part of a stival of Indian art and culture.

With delicacies including Khee-a "Hyderabadsky" (a mutton rry) and a pulao dish described as 'gov Vegetarian-sky," the Tsenlny is doing a roaring trade.

"The reaction is very good leed," says Pahwa Balbir, the hoka's banquet manager. "We're ving about 500 meals a day and working for up to 14 hours at a stretch."

As a tape-recorded sitar twangs in the background, waitresses distribute puris and papadams to bemused Russian diners.

Several of them prefer Russian black bread with their first Indian meal, and at several tables curry is being washed down Russian-style – with vodka.

"It's full of spices we just don't use," says a contented Muscovite who has just been drinking port with his first-ever curried cabbage.

India reached agreement last year with the Soviet Internal Trade Ministry to help establish and staff an Indian restaurant here, probably to be known as "The Delhi."

Until now, Moscow's only taste of curry had been at an Indian trade fair in the 1960s. If the latest experiment is any indication, Indian cooking could be here to stay.

"We've already opened a restaurant in Prague," says Balbir hopefully. "It's unfamiliar, but very appealing to the taste," he adds, and his companion nods in agreement.

The most popular dishes, according to Balbir, are the tandoori chicken and fish.

"It's a remarkable cuisine," enthuses the restaurant's head waitress, Mariya Fyodorova. "Our cooks have already learned some of the recipes and it's possible they will stay on the menu."

Whatever happens at the Tsentralny after its curry honeymoon, devotees of Indian cooking could soon have a permanent Moscow eating place of their own.

– Chris Catlin

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INDONESIA

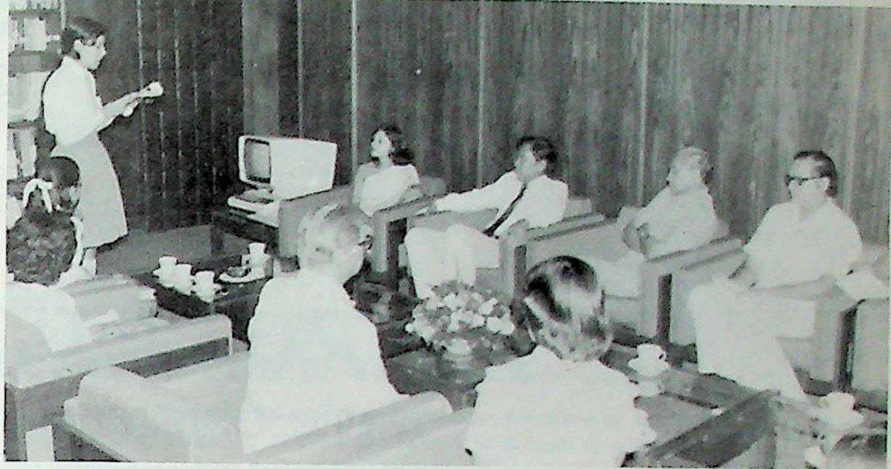
COURTESY CALL ON GOVERNOR OF JAKARTA

On 3rd October 1977, the stu-ınts of The Gandhi Memorial chool, led by the Principal, r. V. Ram, and the Managing ommittee, represented by Mr. L. amchand, paid a courtesy call on e newly appointed Governor of ıkarta Metropolitan City, Let. en. Tjokropranolo, at the City all. They were received by the overnor in his office. The Princi-l acquainted the Governor with e working of the School and its tivities. The students took the pportunity to invite the Governor visit the School as the Guest of onour at a "Morning of Prayers" mark Mahatma Gandhiji's 108th irth Anniversary. A donation of p. 500,000, was also handed over the Governor for the victims of rthquake in Nusa Teng-ra Barat, Indonesia.

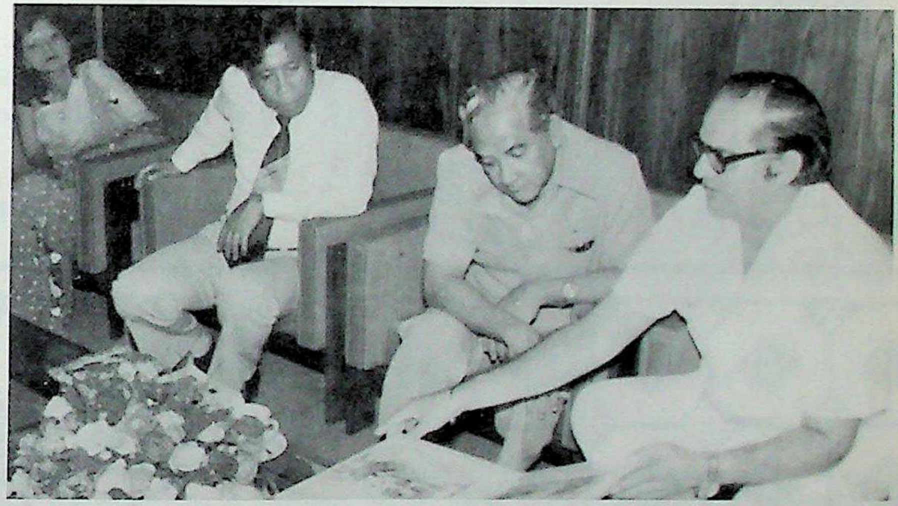
The Governor spoke a few ords, thanking the Staff, Manage-ent and students of the School r their good wishes. He also mmended the children on their cial bent of mind which made em contribute part of their poc-t money for the victims of the rthquake. He told the children at in any charity, the sentiment hind the action is of the greatest lue.

108TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAHATMA GANDHI CELEBRATED

The students of The Gandhi morial School got together in school compound, sang the hatma's favourite prayer song l began the day marking Gand-i's 108th Birth Anniversary in a emn manner. In a way befitting ndhiji's principles and ideals, the dents spent the day visiting ious orphanages, the General spital, Old Men's Homes, mental



At the City Hall, Governor Tjokropranolo listens as Miss Anita Advani acquaints him with the students' activities. Others in the picture are from r to l: Principal V. Ram, H.E. the Governor, ADC to the Governor and Miss Maya Sawlani.



Principal V. Ram shows the Governor the record of the School's activities while the Governor's ADC and Miss Maya Sawlani look on.

Vijay Square, as they are popularly known, with the fruit at the Old Men's Home. Vijay Melwani and Vijay Mulani along with Ravi Mishra – son of Indian Ambassador are seen here as they enter the Old Men's Home.

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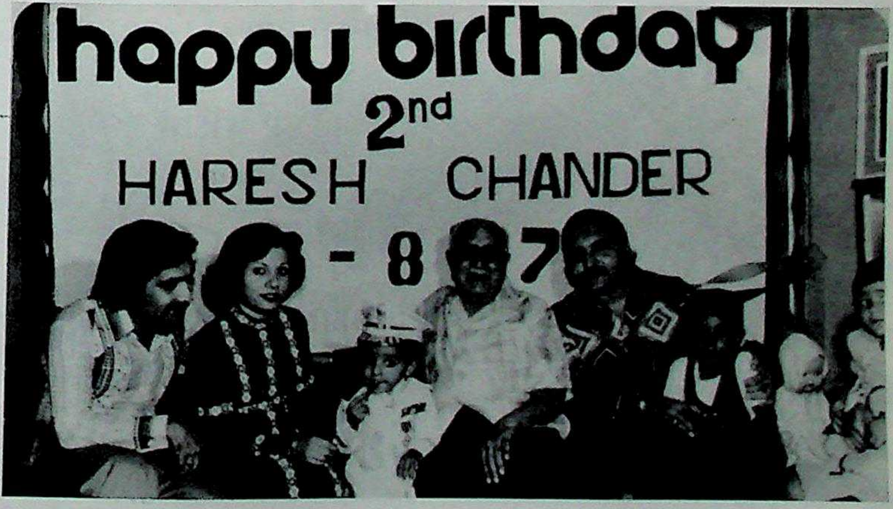
Miss Piya Raghani and the students of The Gandhi Memorial School at the "Wisma Tan Miyat" blind centre.

The Director General of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education (extreme left) was the Chief Guest at The Gandhi Memorial School Graduation function. Also in the picture are l.,to r. Madam Mishra, wife of the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Gopaldas Sawlani, Mr. Shankar Samtani and the Ambassador of India, Mr. B.C. Mishra.

sylums, abandoned children \ehabilitation Centres, Homes for landicapped children and other ocial institutions. They brought to hese places, lunch-packets, milk, nedicines, fruits, etc. and spent ome time with the inmates, eading to them and playing diferent games and sports. They came ack exhausted but satisfied and entally more aware of the plight f the needy. In all about 1,000 eople were visited at various initutions. This was made possible ue to the untiring efforts of the udents, their parents and teachers.

The new Indian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr. B.C. Mishra, is seen preparing to sign the Visitors Book, at a luncheon given in his honour by The Gandhi Memorial School, held at the school hall. Others in the picture are from l to r : Principal V. Ram, Madam Mishra, Mrs. V. Ram and Mr. & Mrs. Gopaldas Sawlani.

harming Vidya Mirpuri binds rother Ashok Vaswani close to her ith a bond that is stronger than the atural blood ties between them. ooking on are Mr. & Mrs. Shevkram Vaswani.



Little Haresh Vaswani celebrated his 3rd birthday on 6th August, 1977. Here he is surrounded by his loved ones: uncle Jaikishin, mummy, great grand Dada N.T. Vaswani, Dada Vijay Vaswani and little friends.

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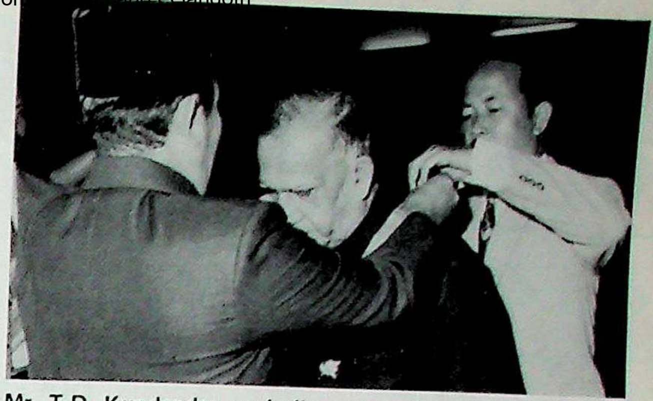
eautiful Miss Kamla Tolani (3rd from right) of The Gandhi emorial School, 2nd Runner-Up in the Miss Orchid 1977 ompetition, is all smiles as she is seen here with Miss Faith irtle, Miss Orchid '77 and Miss Glory Hadiningrat, 1st unner-Up, at a reception given by the Tourist Department f Jakarta for visiting Dutch Tourist Dept. Heads and attend- d by the Governor of Jakarta.



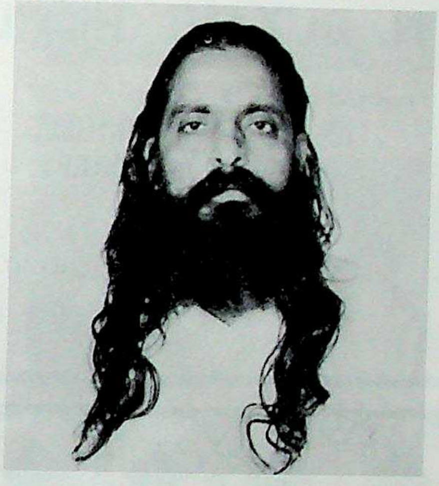
Mr. T.D. Kundandas, an Indian national residing at Surabaya was awarded the "Nararya" Medal by the Indonesian government, in recognition of his services during the Indonesian Independence Struggle. He is the first Indian here to receive this honour and "The Indian" congratulates him for this. He is seen being conferred with the medal.

A SANSKRIT SCHOLAR IN JAKARTA

Shri 108 Swami Vishwa Hitai- iji Maharaj, the founder of Shri ishwa Sevashram at Ujjain, India nd organiser of the Hindi monthly ewspaper 'Vishwahitaishi San- esh' was recently in Jakarta.

Swamiji is a Sanskrit scholar and as made detailed study of all reli- ons of the world. He is considered n authority on Ramayana and has elivered discourses on various iritual topics in India, Bhutan, epal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Thai- nd and Malaysia. He is an author many religious books and speaks any Indian languages like Hindi, Sindhi, Punjabi, Gujarati, Marathi, Katshi, Urdu, etc.

— Sangeeta Ram



Swami Vishwa Hitaishiji Maharaj.

GUYANA

FOUR HUNDRED BOOKS PRESENTED TO GUYANA

About 400 books in Hindi and English on various aspects of India were presented recently to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana by Mr. Pushkar Johari, Indian High Commissioner to Guyana. Earlier, in January, 1977, about 1250 Hindi books were presented by the High Commissioner to the University for the establishment of a "Hindi Corner" in the library of the University of Guyana.

PANAMA

e Indian community residing tin Colon celebrated India's lependence Day with a flag hoisting ceremony held at the idence of Mr. Mohandas T. Mayani, President of the lian Merchant's Association of Colon. All members and ir wives were present and as usual Parsad and tea were ved after the ceremony. Pictured here are some of the lians who attended the occasion.

Seen enjoying 'Parsad' and tea at the residence of Mr. M.T. Mayani are some of Colon's businessmen.

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LEADERS OF SECT VISIT MEMBERS IN BULAWAYO

Three members of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual Movement were recently in Bulawayo to visit the City's 150 Raja Yoga followers. They included Brahma Kumari Prakash Maniji, Head of the Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University in India, whilst the other members of the group were Brahma Kumar Rameshbhai Shah, Chairman of the World Renewal Spiritual Trust and Vedantiben, assistant to B.K. Prakash Maniji.

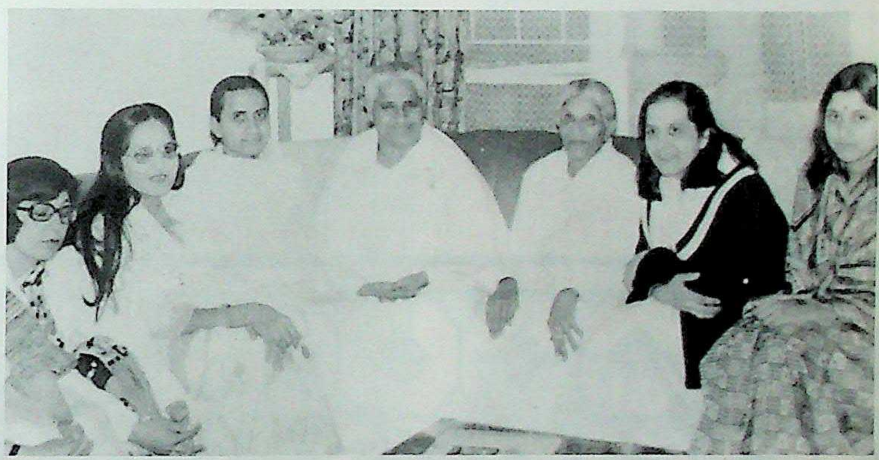
Disciples of the Movement follow the Raja Yoga system, which aims at direct communication with God through Mental Yoga and Meditation.

Brahma Kumari Prakash Maniji gave official recognition to the City's Raja Yoga Centre. During their stay in Bulawayo the group gave Press and Television interviews. Programmes were arranged by the Bulawayo Hindoo Society, the Mooney Hindoo Vidyalaya School, and they also met the Mayor and Mayoress of Bulawayo.

– G.R. Hassamal

Dolly daughter of late Mr. Vishindas Bhopatrai Nagrani of Bulawayo and Mrs. Padmabai Nagrani was married to Chandru son of late Mr. Tulsidas Wadhumal Mahbubani of Mahbubani's Madras on 22nd September, 977 at the Taj Coromandel Hotel, Madras. Pictured after the wedding ceremony the smiling couple is seen with the bride's mother, Mrs. Padmabai Vishindas Nagrani.

Concert scene given by the Bulawayo Raja Yoga Centre Movement, in honour of their visiting guests. Seen singing on mike is B.K. Manharbhai Mooney.



A Get together meeting was arranged with members of the Sindhi Community of Bulawayo at the residence of Mr. Gulab R. Hassamal, Chairman-Bulawayo Hindoo Society. Seen l. to r. – Mrs. Priya L. Nagrani, Mrs. Gurvanti V. Sakhrani, B.K. Vedantiben, B.K. Prakashmaniji, Mrs. Devibai Hassamal, Mrs. Prema V. Nagrani and Mrs. Kavita Hassamal from Mauritius.

VEDANTIBEN

Pictured at Bulawayo Airport is Brahma Kumari Prakashmaniji, Head of the B.K. Spiritual University being welcomed by the students of the Bulawayo Raja Yoga Centre.

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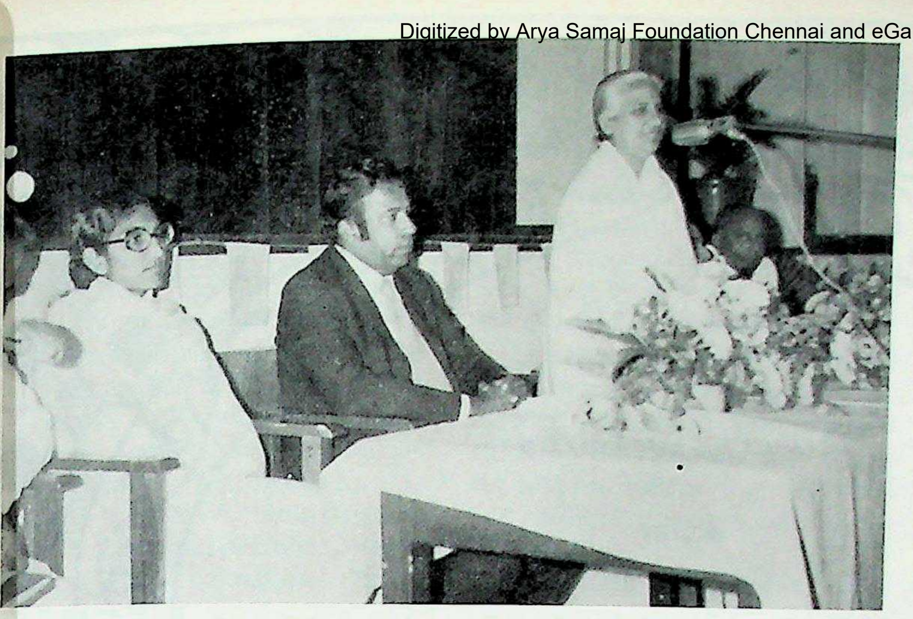
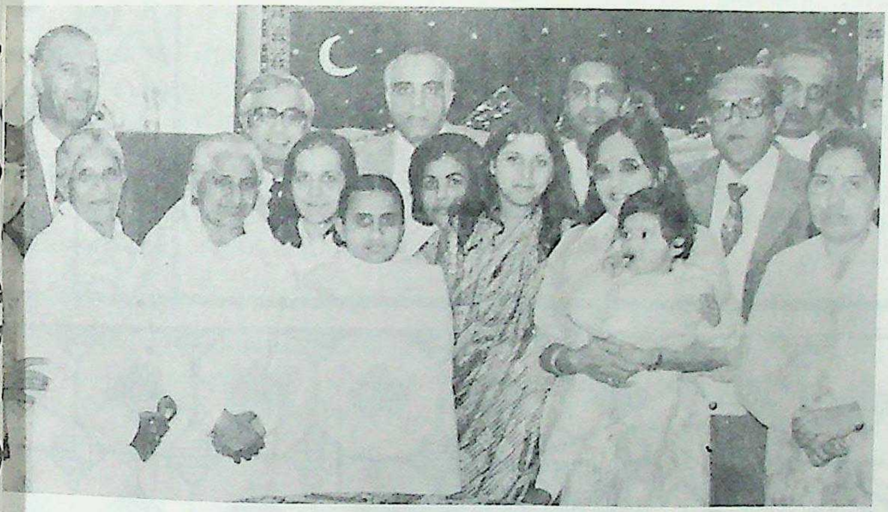


At the welcome reception given by the Bulawayo Hindoo Society are seen from L. to R. – B. K. Rekhaben from Zambia, Mr Gulab R. Hassamal and Brahma Kumari Prakashmaniji, addressing the audience.



ntroducing members of the Bulawayo Sindhi Community to Brahma Kumari Prakashmaniji at the residence of Mr. Gulab R. Hassamal.

owers were presented to the visiting guests by the City's 150 Raja Yoga followers. . to R: B.K. Vedantiben, B.K. Prakashmaniji, B.K. Rekhaben, and B.K. Rameshbhai hah.

TAIWAN

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Kumar kissing their daughter Meetu on her first birthday.

Photos: Shoba Nari

THAILAND

AN INDIAN LADY HONOURED IN BANGKOK

Her Majesty the Queen of Thailand honoured Mrs. K. Malik, wife of the Indian Ambassador by presenting to her honoured medal of the Red Cross in appreciation of her contribution to the cause of the Red Cross Society of Thailand at a colourful ceremony held at Chitralada Palace in the presence of His Majesty the King of Thailand, their Royal Highness Princesses Sirindhorn and Chulabhorn. Other recipients of the honoured medal of the Red Cross were the wives of Ambassadors of U.K., Iran, Australia and Malaysia. The ceremony was followed by a large reception.

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JOYOUS OCCASIONS

Indians in Las Palmas have been rather busy these few months especially with recent weddings and other occasions of celebration. On 10th September, 1977 Bhugro, son of late Mr. Bhagwandas Khushaldas Aidasani and Mrs. Vishinibai Bhagwandas was married to Kamla, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Pursram Valiram Chellaram in Hotel Cristina where a grand cocktail and dinner party was held. It was very well attended by the local community.

Another wedding in Las Palmas was held on 24th September, 1977 when Raju, son of Mr. & Mrs. Parsram Basarmal Kirpalani was married to Olga, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lachmandas Chataram Chulani of M/s. Chandus at the Hindu Mandir. After the wedding ceremony a dinner party was given in Club Metropole and several friends and relatives gathered to bless the charming couple.

The Indian community here celebrated Janmashtami at the Hindu temple on 5th September, 1977. Young teenage girls started the celebration by performing a lovely dance after which bhajans were sung by devotees followed by the distribution of parsad.

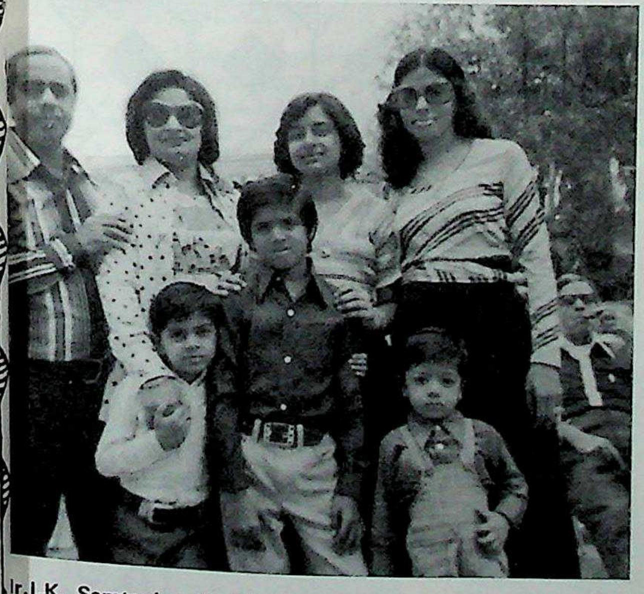
Several people visited Las Palmas recently and among them were Mr. & Mrs. Khanchand Bakshani and their son Bhagwan who arrived here for a short holiday from Montreal and will be leaving soon for Sri Lanka.

Mrs. Roop G. Daswani came from Lagos to see her daughter Varsha and son-in-law Jayant of Messrs. Intra who were blessed with a son recently. Naturally, Mrs. Daswani was overjoyed to see her new grandson.

Another occasion of rejoicing was the arrival of a beautiful baby girl to Mr. & Mrs. Hiro Dhansingani. Mr. & Mrs. Mike Daswani of M/s. Natraj arrived in Las Palmas from Rome to participate in the celebrations. Pretty Roshini was a welcome sister for Gina and Vishal who were simply overjoyed with the new arrival in the family.

— U.K. Samtani

Mr. Mahesh Tolaram recently arrived in Las Palmas from Madras to spend some time with his father who is a resident here. Mahesh spent a week visiting the beautiful scenic spots of Las Palmas and he is seen here with from left: Mr. Tolaram, Kavi and Poonam Samtani.



Mr.I.K. Samtani and wife Sharmila recently visited Las Palmas on their way to St. Maarten alongwith their two kids Deepu and Dinesh. They came from Colombo to visit Mr. K.'s brother Mr. U.K. Samtani and had an enjoyable time during their brief visit. Seen here is a group photo taken during a recent outing.

Obviously thrilled with the new arrival are Gina and Vishal holding pretty Roshini.

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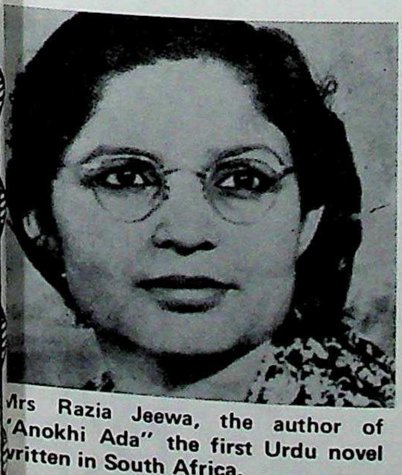
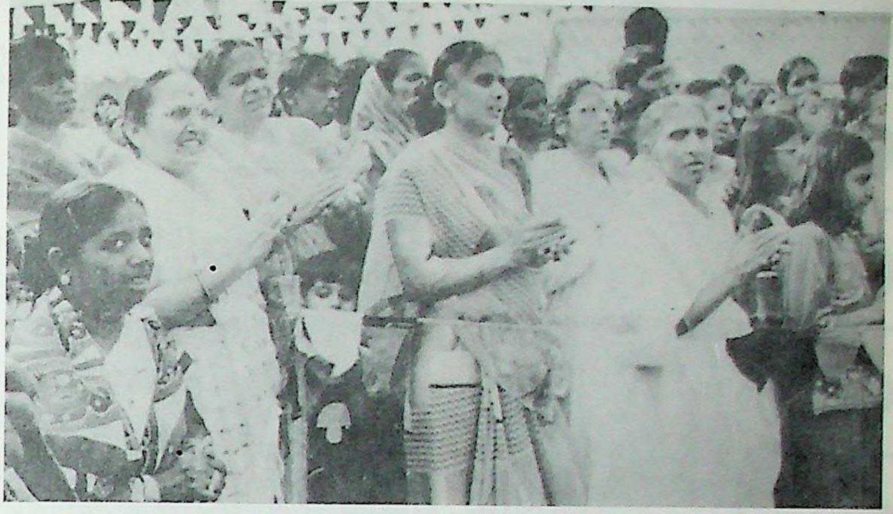
HARE KRISHNA FESTIVITY

All roads lead to the Hare Krishna Farm Ashram at Cato Ridge where thousands of well wishers and devotees celebrated Krishna Ashtami. His Holiness Sriman Jayatirtha Das Prabu came out especially from the United States for the occasion and to officiate at the opening of the new temple of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness. The pictures capture the solemnity and happiness of the proceedings at the ashram.

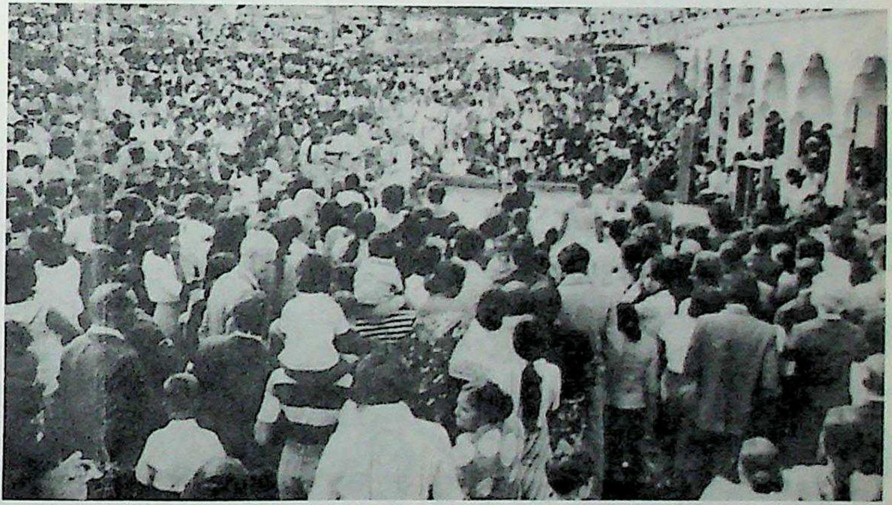
Members of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness and follows of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, lead the crowd in the singing of the "Hare Krishna" kirtan. In the foreground is the hawan kund on which the sacrificaial prayer was performed prior to the opening of the new Temple.



Mrs Razia Jeewa, the author of "Anokhi Ada" the first Urdu novel written in South Africa.



A view of the crowd clapping as they chant the words of the kirtan before the opening of the Temple.



The large gathering at the Hare Krishna Farm Ashram, at Cato Ridge, when the new Temple was officially opened. The function was held in conjunction with the Lord Krishna birth anniversary celebrations.

Part of the large crowd joins in the singing of the "Hare Krishna, Hare Rama" kirtan during the celebrations.

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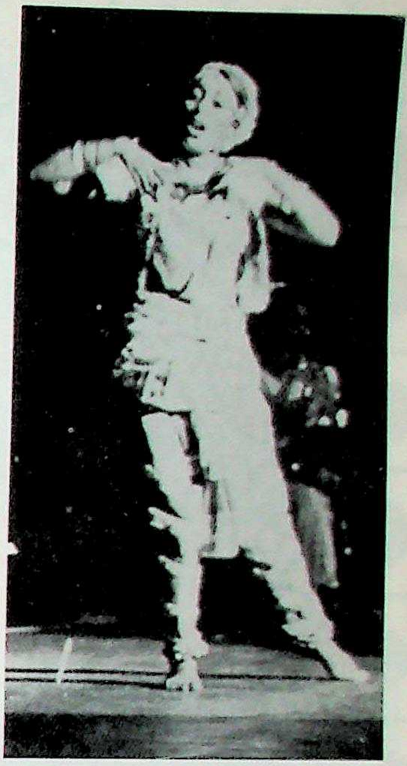
Eleven pretty girls in a row . . . all debutantes of the Avoca High Ex-students society who were presented to Mr and Mrs Roy Jithoo during the first Debs Ball held by the society in the Durban City Hall.



Miss S. Naidu, a graduate in Bharat Natyam and lecturer at the University of Durban-Westville demonstrates a classical dance.

umari Sushiela, the India-trained danseuse from Tongaat and a graduate in both
rth and south Indian dance styles, appeared in her own show at Verulam's Mad-
sa Hall on October 30. A versatile dancer who has been twice to India to gain
perience, Kumari Sushiela was accompanied in most of her classical and oriental
nces by a group of eight other junior dancers trained in her school.

Manna Dey, one of India's leading singers and Gopi Krishna the classical dance maestro plus 16 supporting artistes arrived in South Africa recently. Extensive rehearsals were held before the show was staged at the Durban City Hall during the first week of October. Seen here is Gopi Krishna — dance maestro.

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TELEGRAMS
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A new Indian classical dance "find", even-year-old Vyjayantimala, from Tongaat, made her debut in Kumari ushiela's dance drama at the Veru- am Madressa Hall.

Grace and charm to delight the eye in a dance executed by the students of Springfield College.

DOOTIANA

TOP INDIAN AIDE ATTENDS CHINA DAY FUNCTION

For the first time since 1962 a abinet Minister represented the overnment of India at a national ly function held by the Chinese nbassy in Delhi on September 30.

Education Minister, P.C. Chun- r was accompanied by a fairly ge delegation, including Minister State for Agriculture Bhanu Pra- p Singh, Secretary in the Ministry External Affairs, V.K. Ahuja, ief of Protocol, Peter Sinai, the int Secretary dealing with China the External Affairs Ministry, V. Ranganathan, and other icials.

The President, N. Sanjiva Reddy, l Prime Minister Morarji Desai, sent messages of felicitation on occasion. The President's mes- e was to the Standing Commit- of China's National People's ngress.

POPE NAMES INDIAN IS ENVOY TO PANAMA

A report received in New Delhi s that Pope Paul has appointed hop Blasco Francisco Collaco of India as the new Papal Nuncio (Ambassador) to Panama.

The 46-year-old prelate has had a number of diplomatic assignments in the past, in Bogota, Sydney, Central America, Paris and Copenhagen.

Last year, he was summoned back to the Vatican for service on the church's Council for Public Affairs with the rank of nunciature counsellor.

On September 26, the Pope awarded him the honorary title of Archbishop of Ottawa.

AMBASSADOR TO CAMEROUN

Mr. Avtar Singh, high commissioner of India to Nigeria has been concurrently accredited as the Indian ambassador to Cameroun, with residence in Lagos.

AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM

Shri. Prasannbhai Karunashankar Dave, formerly Adviser to the Governor of Tamil Nadu, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Belgium in succession to Shri. Krishen Behari Lall.

AMBASSADOR TO NORWAY

Mr. George Swell has been appointed ambassador of India to Norway and Iceland with residence at Oslo.

NEW ENVOY

Shri. Jyotirmoy Barua, Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs has been appointed Ambassador of India to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in succession to Shri. Imdad Ali.

ENVOY TO SENEGAL

H.F. Soonu Kochar, Secretary, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi has been appointed Ambassador of India to Senegal in succession to Shri. Shailan Hiralal Desai.

ENVOY TO ETHIOPIA

Mr. Vinay Kumar Verma, director in the ministry of external affairs, New Delhi, has been appointed ambassador of India to Ethiopia in succession to Mr. Vasant Vasudeo Paranjpe.

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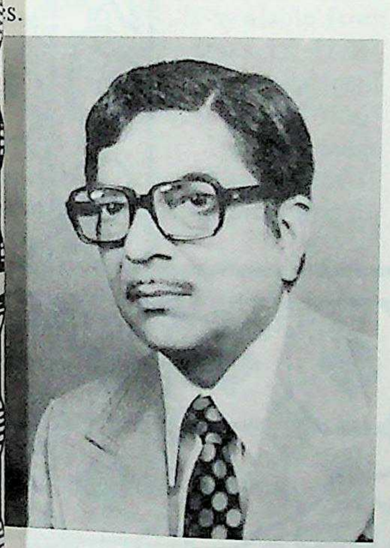
INDIAN

NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR OF IA

Mr. Mahesh C. Sarin was recent- appointed the Managing Director Indian Airlines national air trans- rt industry with over 20 years of h and varied experience in rious public sector enterprises in dia including steel, telecommuni- tions, state trading and aeronau- s.



Mr. M.C. Sarin

His experience in industrial nagement is vast and varied. He d senior positions in the Hindu- n Steel Limited during its forma- stages for over 7 years (1957- . Later, after serving the Indian ephone Industries for over 3 rs as its Financial Manager from 9 he served for 3 years as the cutive Director of the State ding Corporation holding charge Personnel & Marketing, Admini- tion, Selection and Training, rnational Operations and Sales motion. He was the first Chair- of Cashew Corporation of a, a subsidiary of the State ding Corporation.

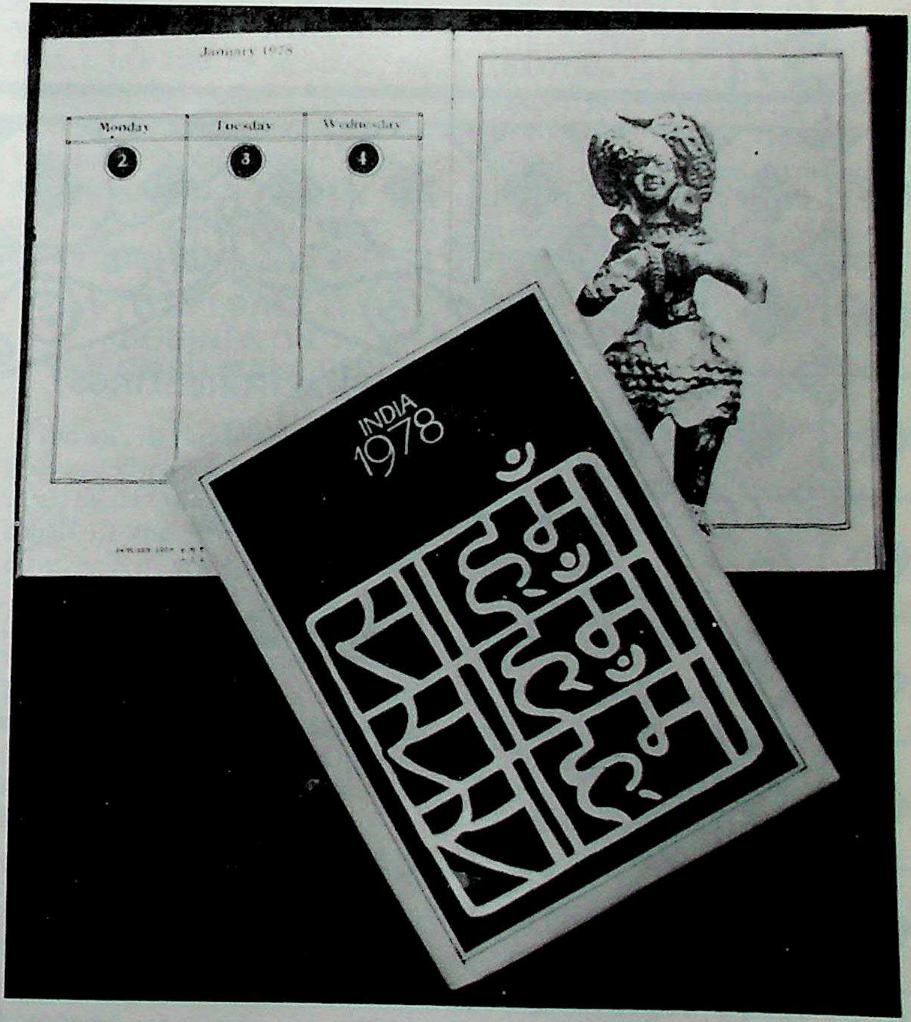
INDIA DIARY 1978

Sa'ham. I am She.

Beginning with this word, the India Diary 1978 enters into a world that is as beautiful as the subject that it portrays.

Taking its root in the word Sa'ham, which is described in the Tantra as woman's highest form, the India Diary 1978 portrays the various facets of woman – as mother, goddess, mother earth, teacher, shringar, lover, dancer, singer, mother, gajalakshmi, warrior and, finally, creator. Thus covering within the span of 12 calendar months the entire gamut of womanhood.

Initially produced by the India Tourism Development Corporation for tourism promotion, the India Diary, today, has become a veritable collector's item. For unlike most other diaries, the India Diary is more than just a visual experience; its a year-round reminder of the land whose subjects it covers. Some of these in the previous years



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ere astrology, vignettes of Indian ildlife and traditional floor de- gns. This year's subject, however, romises to make India Diary 1978 e most memorable one.

Starting with the cover, which peats the word Sa'ham in Devana- i, stylised into a folk pattern in d, green, orange and white, the iary is also a medium for the rious traditional Indian media hich have been used to illustrate e main theme – folk art, sculp- re, miniatures tantra art. This, us the variety of printing pro- sses and paper used, makes it a re presentation of Indian art.

Since last year the India Diary s been made available for selec- ve sale to those interested in utili- ng this uniquely Indian gift.

The India Diary 1978, which is iced at Rs. 25, is available from e Product Sales Manager, ITDC, imalaya House, 23 Kasturba andhi Marg, New Delhi 110 001 d M/s Bliss, 3 E 2 Jhandewalan tension, New Delhi 110055. ttractive discounts are offered for lk orders.

AIR-INDIA TO DEPOSE MAHARAJA

Air India's well known mascot, little maharaja, is apparently ing to be retired, according to the *itesman* newspaper.

The decision makes no sense and mean a loss of valuable good- l, the newspaper said in an edi- ial published September 18.

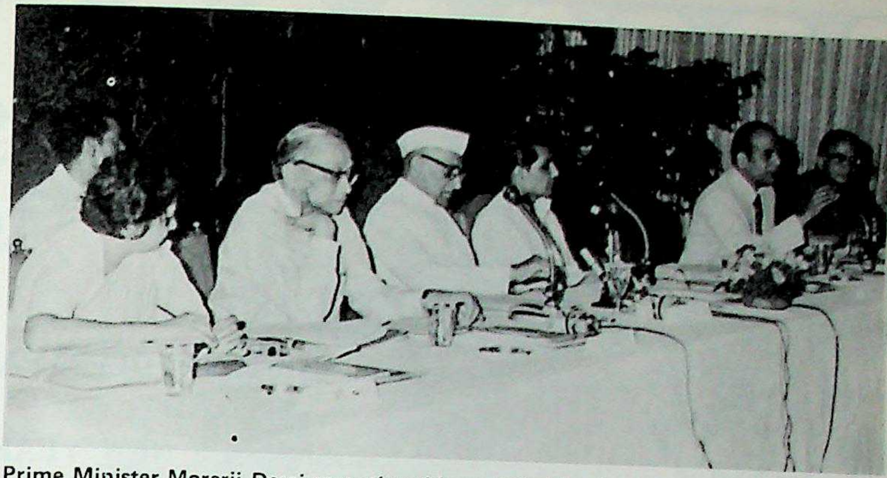
The Maharaja was the creation S.K. Kooka, the airline's former licity director. Kooka's unusual ertising greatly helped to esta- h Air India's name.

Some of his notable publicity in- ded the highly amusing pam- ets "Foolishly Yours" and "This kes No Sense," in which the air- often took digs at itself and at ian ways. "IATA will not let us gle," an employee was shown ng in one cartoon. "But if you, passenger, paid the normal fare any airline in the world, we uld be glad to pay to have your head examined."

The pamphlets may have "aroused the ire of the bluenose lobby in New Delhi," the *Statesman* said.

"Air India's advertising manager in London apparently thought that the symbol had lost its importance, which is difficult to regard as other than a tale told by an idiot," the newspaper commented.

It also called Air India's General Manager K.G. Appusamy's remarks to reports in Madras that the mascot was "outdated" a "piece of absurd literal-mindedness."



Prime Minister Morarji Desai recently addressed the Tourism Ministers Conference in New Delhi. A number of decisions were taken, among them, steps to increase the infrastructural facilities for low budget tourists and the ways and means of promoting domestic tourism. On his right is seen Mr. R. P. Naik, Secretary, Dept. of Tourism, the Central Ministry of Tourism; on his left are: Mr. Purshottam Kaushik, Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mr. C.B. Jain, Director General (Tourism) and Mr. Pran Seth, Deputy Director General (Tourism).

IA TO OPERATE ITS BOEINGS ON COLOMBO-MALE RUN

Indian Airlines will operate a Boeing-737 service four times a week on its Colombo-Male route on behalf of the government of Maldives.

This was stated by Mr. Abdul Gao, minister for transportation of the Maldives, who passed through Bombay on his way to the 22nd conference of the international civil aviation organisation (ICAO). "We have signed a wet-lease agreement," he told reporters.

Indian Airlines currently operates an HS-748 service twice a week between Trivandrum and Male. Air Ceylon also links Male and Colombo with HS-748 flights.

The Maldive islands are drawing an increasing number of tourists from western Europe, who mainly enter Male via Colombo. To meet the increasing traffic, the Maldives government has decided to utilise the larger jet-liners of Indian Airlines, according to Mr. Gao.

Last year, the Maldives attracted 16,000 tourists. For handling larger aircraft in the future, the government of the island republic has invited global tenders to lengthen the present runway at Male and modernise the existing facilities. The International Airport Authority of India was one of the contenders, it was stated. Development work is to begin next year and is expected to go on till 1980.

Mr. Gao said that leading international carriers were showing interest in including Male in their network, among them Air India.

TOURISM, FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNER

Tourism now ranks sixth among foreign exchange earning industries of India. In 1976, India received 533,951 foreign tourists, who stayed an average of 27 days in our country and spent an equivalent of Rs. 2,250 million in foreign currency.

Indian travel agencies, approved by the Department of Tourism

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rned over Rs. 180 million in reign exchange last year. Five top rners among them received ards from the Department.

AVIATION-TOURISM LINK IS PLANNED

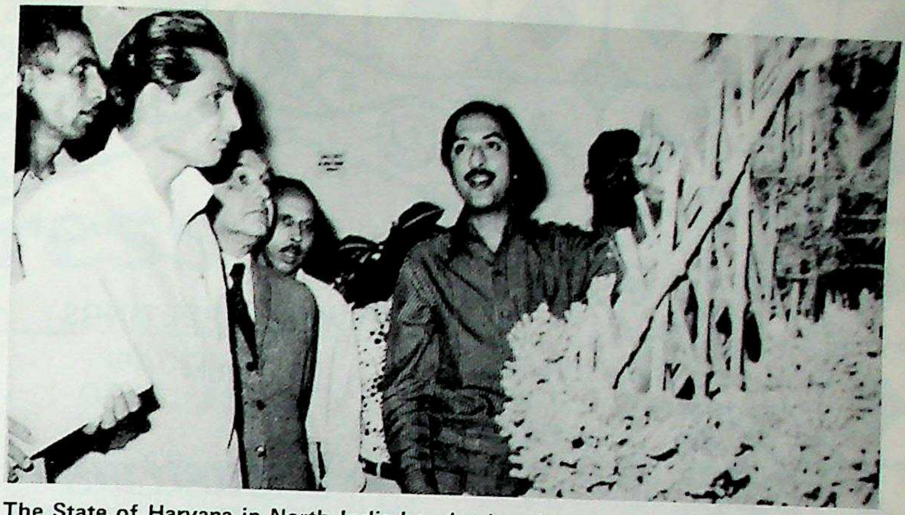
India is linking its aviation deve- pment with a planned program to prove its tourism infrastructure, official of the Indian Tourism d Civil Aviation Ministry said Montreal on September 14. Speaking at the 22nd session of e International Civil Aviation ganization, India's Tourism Mini- y secretary R.P. Naik said his vernment planned to establish services to many areas in the untry not so far covered. India's mestic airline network has a ekly schedule of over 1,000 vices and its international airline ves 40 cities on all continents, he d.

Naik called urgently for cheaper omotional and special air fares to e developing countries. At the same time, he said, steps should be taken to insure observance of published and approved fares and tariffs so that the widespread practice of illegal discounts was curbed and the economic health of airlines maintained.

Other members of the Indian delegation to the ICAO conference were B.S. Gidwani, director general of Civil Aviation, R.V. Ranadive, director of regulations, Civil Aviation Department, T.K. Rao, manager of Air-India in Canada, and G.B. Singh, first secretary of the Indian High Commission.

Naik later hosted a luncheon for members of some other delegations.

TOURIST PARADISE



The State of Haryana in North India has developed some of the best tourist spots in India. Seen here is Ashok Pahwa, Director of Haryana Tourism with Purshottam Kaushik, Indian Minister for tourism.

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Gleanings from Indian press

K.K. BIRLA GETS BAIL IN ARREST ANTICIPATION

The Calcutta High Court ranted anticipatory bail to inustrialist K.K. Birla in connecion with a case filed by the Cenal Bureau of Investigation.

MALARIA RETURNS

Health authorities are watchng with growing concern the reurn of the bloodsucking female osquito to India where more han two million cases of malaria ave been reported this year.

INDO-AFRICAN SOCIETY

The Indo-African Friendship ssociation has been formed in ew Delhi with Mr Santosh hatterjee, a Supreme Court dvocate as Chairman and Mr .D. Aggarwal, a former assoate of Jomo Kenyatta, as ecretary-General. The first do-African Congress will be ld in Delhi during the last eek in December.

ASIAN BANK NAMES INDIAN TOP AIDE

The Asian Development nk's board of directors on tober 11, appointed A.T. mbawale of India to be a vice-esident of the Bank, starting ril 1978 for a five-year term.

SPACE IS FULL OF 'SUPERFLUID'

Earth and other planets are putting on weight and new planets and satellites are likely to be formed in the solar system.

These startling predictions have been made by Mr. Paramahansa Tewari of the dement of atomic energy on the basis of a new theory formulated by him.

The recent finding by Soviet scientists that Earth is getting heavier has already confirmed Mr. Tewari's prediction. According to him the mass of earth and other planets "should consistantly increase because matter is dispersed from the sun."

His new theory on "substantial space" has revived the age-old controversy on the existence of "Aether." Nineteenth century scientists believed that Aether did exist, but this concept was dropped after Einstein.

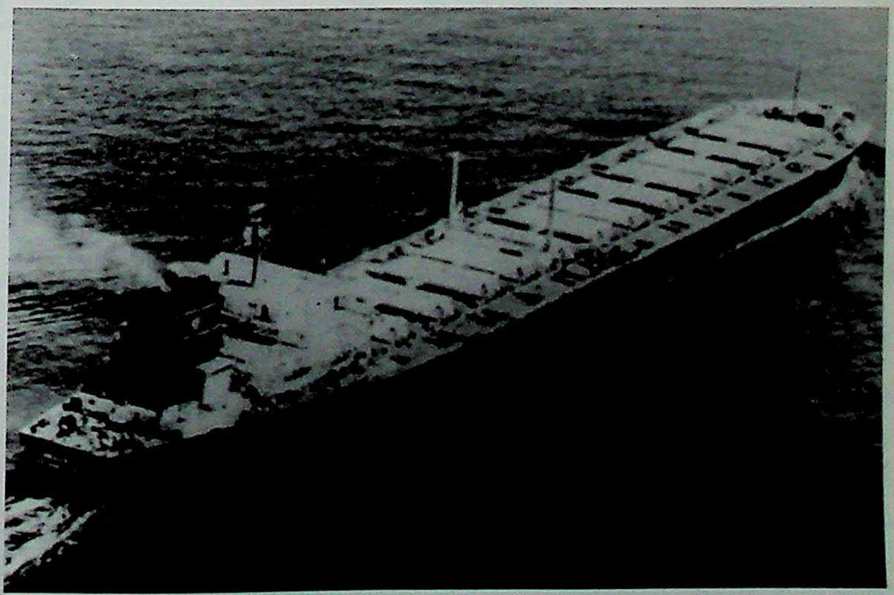
Mr. Tewari says that empty space is actually filled by a "superfluid medium" which, he has shown, explains all atomic and other physical phenomena in the universe.

The new theory has received considerable attention from international scientists.

SATELLITE LINK WITH PAKISTAN

A telecommunication agreement was signed in Islamabad by the Indian Ambassador, Mr K.S. Bajpai, and Mr S. A. Siddiqui, Director-General, Telephone and Telegraph Department. The accord provides for the establishment of a direct satellite link between the two countries.

NEW CARRIER SHIP



SCI has acquired a new ship M.V. Vallabhbhai Patel.

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BEDI TO CAPTAIN INDIAN TEAM

Bishen Singh Bedi will be the ptain of the Indian Cricket eam during the team's tour of ustralia.

JAIPAL TAKES OVER AS U.N. COUNCIL CHIEF

Ambassador Rikhi Jaipal of dia took over as president of e Security Council, in succes- on to Ambassador Rudiger von echmar of West Germany.

WORLD BANK'S INDIAN VICE-PRESIDENT

A former Deputy Governor the Reserve Bank of India, Mr urvis Damry, has been ap- inted Vice-President and cretary of the World Bank, it s announced by the President, Robert McNamara. Mr Dam- has been working as a senior ecutive of the Bank.

1981 WORLD HOCKEY FOR INDIA

The fifth World Cup Hockey ampionships will be held in dia in December, 1981, and uary, 1982, the International ckey Federation decided in me recently. The venue has t been decided but will pro- bly be Bangalore or Bombay.

BIG INVESTMENT OFFER BY W. GERMAN BANKS

West German bankers have ered to provide $1,000 mil- for industrial investment in ia in the next two years, In- tries Minister George Fernan- said recently.

Bombay and Karachi will have two satellite circuits each for telephone services, and one each for telex and telegraph services. New Delhi and Islamabad will have one circuit each for telephone and one each for telegraph services.

The existing "landline circuits" will be rearranged to facilitate the establishment of two circuits for telephone services between New Delhi and Lahore and one circuit each between New Delhi and Karachi and New Delhi and Islamabad. One telex circuit between New Delhi and Karachi and another between New Delhi and Islamabad will also be set up.

•

GIRLS CONQUER PEAK

Bharati Bannerjee of the successful all India National Cadet Corps girls' expedition to the 19,000-foot-high Rataban peak in the Central Himalayas has described the assault as an arduous but exciting one.

Miss Bannerjee, who climbed the peak with Miss B. Umeshwari Devi on September 28, told newsmen on their return that the team took the untreaded northwest route and was the first Indian expedition to scale the summit. The peak is located at the head of the famed "Valley of Flowers."

The team, which left Delhi September 19, set up its base camp at a height of 15,000 feet on September 20 and the second camp at a height of 15,500 feet two days later.

Miss Bannerjee and Miss Umeshwari Devi said that they and three Sherpas reached the peak at 3:55 p.m. local time on September 28 and after spending 25 minutes there returned to their second camp in moonlight at 6:15 the next morning.

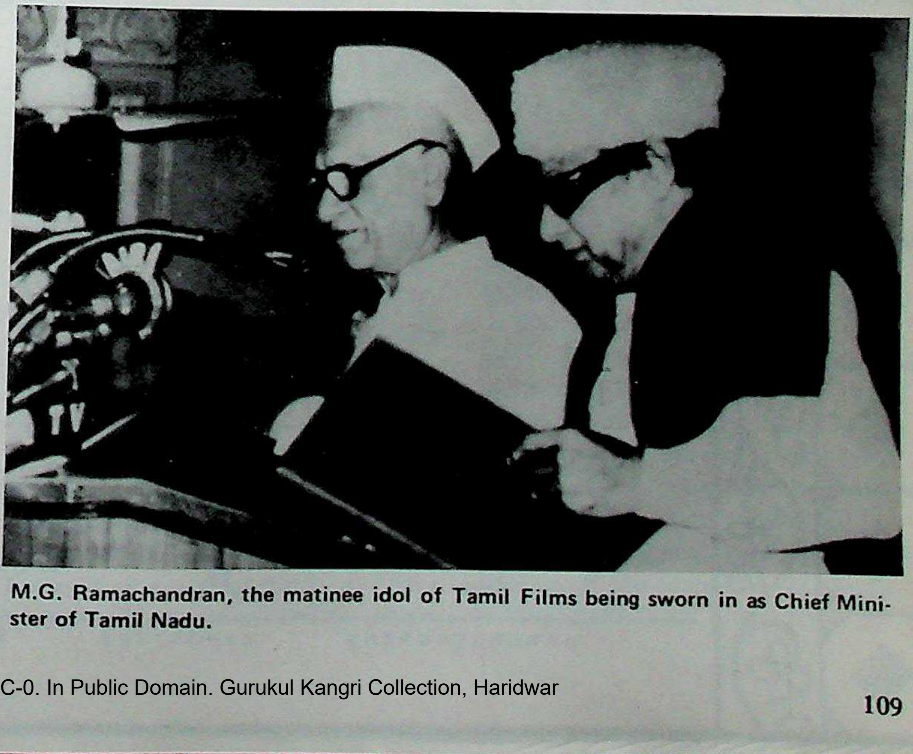
The peak was climbed only once earlier by a British team by the easier southeast route in 1939.

FIFTY YEARS OF BROADCASTING IN INDIA

Prime Minister Shri. Morarji Desai was the Chief Guest at a function held at Akashvani Auditorium, Bombay, to mark the 50 years of Broadcasting in India.

Shri. L.K. Advani, Minister for Information and Broadcasting delivered welcome address and Shri. V.D. Patil, Chief Minister of Maharashtra gave the Presidential address. The Prime Minister distributed Souvenirs and Akashvani Awards and addressed the gathering of veteran broadcasters, prize winners and other distinguished guests.

THE ACTOR CHIEF MINISTER



M.G. Ramachandran, the matinee idol of Tamil Films being sworn in as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

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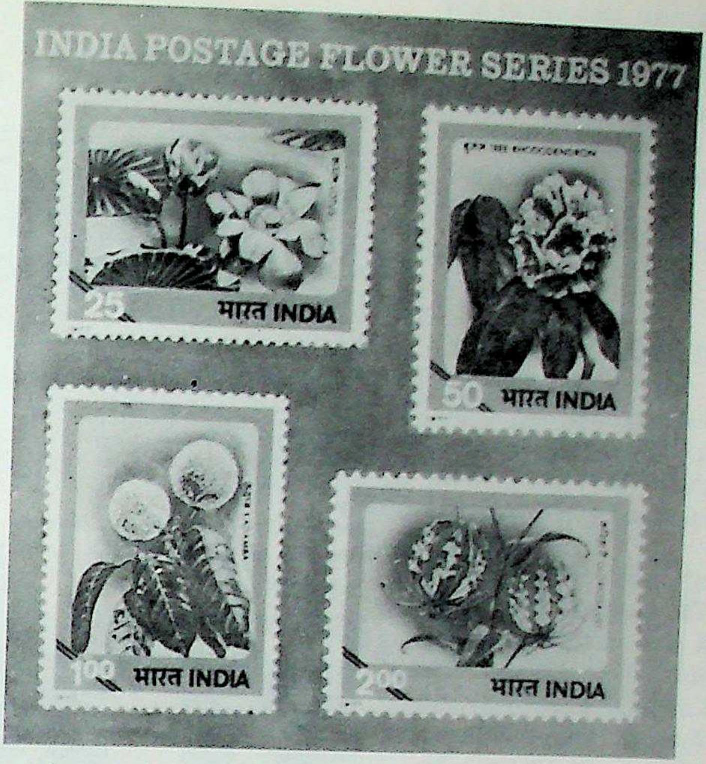


A series of four multi-coloured stamps on Indian flowers.

BM TO LEAVE AS GOVT. EFUSES TO COMPROMISE

The International Business Ma- nes Corporation (I.B.M.) has in- mally told the Indian govern- nt that it is ceasing operations in t country and would like to nplete its withdrawal in six nths, the *New York Times* re- ted an official source as saying ently in New Delhi.

I.B.M.'s decision, the govern- nt official said, was conveyed T.B. Finn, regional general nager of I.B.M.-India, who urned to Delhi recently after sultations at the company's dquarters in Armonk, N.Y.

government official added talks now were in progress the transfer of I.B.M. facilities ndia.

an I.B.M. spokesman in Armonk recently that the company's an branch had submitted a pro- l last April on changes the com- was prepared to make under terms of India's Foreign Ex- ge Regulation Act, which re- ts the extent of foreign owner- in industry.

arlier the I.B.M. spokesman the company had been "ver- informed" by a member of ommittee administering India's gn exchange regulations that roposal had been rejected. In ion, the committee member said that I.B.M. could continue to operate in India only if it gave up 60 per cent of its ownership in its marketing and service business.

When reached for comment in New Delhi, Finn said he had not "formally" told the government of any decision to withdraw, as he was awaiting a formal response from the government on an I.B.M. compromise proposal.

The company's proposal, made last year as an alternative to the directive that its Indian branch divest itself of 60 per cent of its shares, asked that it be allowed to operate two companies in India. One would be a 60 per cent-owned Indian company that would do data processing operations in India. The other, 100 per cent owned by I.B.M., would take over the manufacturing for export, marketing and services.

Under the regulations, companies manufacturing exclusively for export may be fully owned by foreign interest. An official said the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act could not be relaxed for one company alone, since hundreds of other foreign companies in similar situations have complied. The only exception the government could make, according to the official, was to allow it to operate two companies in India. There was no question, the official said, of allowing I.B.M. to have its marketing and servicing operations – by far the most remunerative part of its activity – with its fully American-owned Indian unit.

BANK OF INDIA CHAIRMAN

Mr. Harish Chandra Sarkar, who has been appointed chairman and managing director of the Bank of India for three years is a professional banker.

Mr. Sarkar is an M. Com. and gold medalist from Lucknow University. He had joined the then Imperial Bank of India in 1943 as a probationary assistant, and held several senior executive appointments in the State Bank group, before he became the managing director of the State Bank of India in May, 1977.

He has been a member of the Delhi management association and the Indian institute of personnel management and the management committee of the Indian banks' association. He is also a director of the Karnataka state financial corporation and a trustee of the Unit Trust of India.

HINDI SHORTHAND

The minister of state for labour and parliamentary affairs, Dr. Ram Kripal Singh, released three books on Hindi shorthand at a function in New Delhi.

Dr. Singh said the Devnagari script was the most scientific in the world. This was amply showed by the fact that the writer of the books had attained a speed of 240 words a minute in Hindi shorthand, he said.

The writer, Mr. Gopal Dutt Bisht is a reporter in the Lok Sabha secretariat. He holds the all-India record in the Hindi shorthand competition organised by the Central secretariat Hindi parishad.

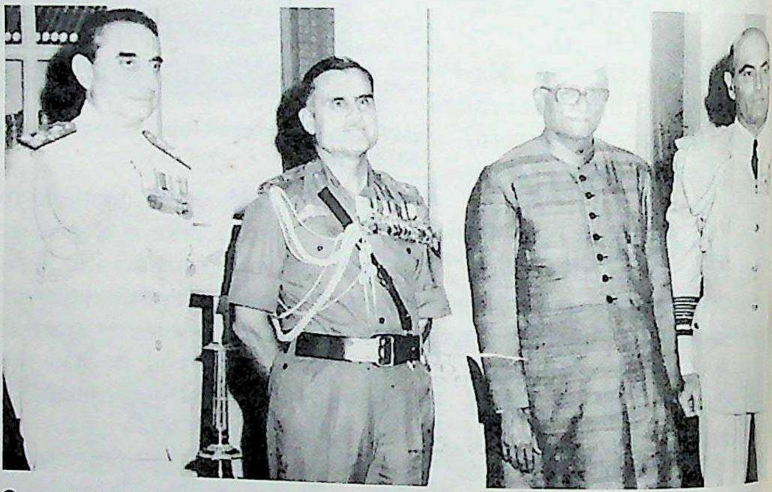
MONEX-77

Dr. Chuchakalov, Chief Scientific Officer of the USSR Expedition launched to study the behaviour of Monsoons in India. The expedition is launched by Indian Meterological Department in collaboration with USSR, to conduct Monsoon Experiment known as Monex 77.

CHARMING VISITOR

Mrs. Judith Hart, British Minister for Overseas Development visited India She was an instant hit with Indians. Seen here with Indian Foreign Affairs Vajpayee.

SERVICES CHIEFS



General T.W. Raina, Admiral Jal Cursetji, Air Chief Marshal H. Moolgavkar President of India in his assembly office.

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published by:
THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG
printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

Subscription list of THE INDIAN includes businessmen, professionals, political leaders, governmental agencies, trade associations and libraries in all countries. Direct subscribers should send crossed cheques payable to THE INDIAN.

THE INDIAN can also be obtained from the followings: **BAHRAIN:** Mr. Ishwar M. Anandani, M/s. Rajnit Agencies, Zayani Bldg, 2nd Fl. A—Khalifa Road, P. O. Box 382, Bahrain, **CANARY IS.:** Ramchand L. Karani, Bros, Sagasta-55, Las Palmas. **FIJI:** Suva Book Shop, 97 Marks Street, Suva. **HONG KONG:** THE INDIAN, 79, Wyndham Street, Hong Kong. Style Clothing, 48, Mody Road, Kowloon. **JAPAN:** Style Pearl Exporters, Port P. O. Box 2016, Kobe. Nairs Restaurant, Showadori Crossing of Miharabashi, Tokyo. **LIBERIA:** Mr. Gul H. Mirchandani, M/s. Hirasons (Agencies) Inc., P. O. Box 1348, Monrovia. **MALAYSIA:** A. Narayanan, Harcroft Estate, Ayer Tawar, Perak. **MAURITIUS:** Nalanda Company Ltd., 30 Bourbon Street, Port Louis. **NIGERIA:** M/s. K. L. M. Fashion (Nig) Ltd., P. O. Box 3355, Lagos. **PHILIPPINES:** Hollywood Enterprises, 314 Garcia Bldg., 636 Rizal Avenue, Manila. **SINGAPORE:** G. S. Muthukrishnan, 97 Taman Permata, Singapore-20. **USA:** Azad International, Inc. 37W. 26th Street, (Off Broadway) New York, N.Y. 10001. **KENYA:** M/s. Woolworths Ltd., P.O. Box 30184, Nairobi, Kenya. **KOREA:** G. D. Vashi, 616 Chongno Hotel, 9, 2nd St., Chong-No, Seoul. **INDONESIA:** Mr. Kanaya N. Nanwani. Royal Impex, 33-B Pintu Air, Djakarta, Indonesia.

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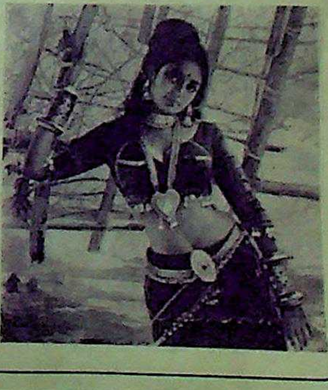
Yearly Subscription Rate:
Stg. £4.00 or US$10.00 or HK$50.00
Postage included

In HONG KONG only—Yearly HK$40.00
Single Copy—HK$4.00



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Samaiki

G. Sital

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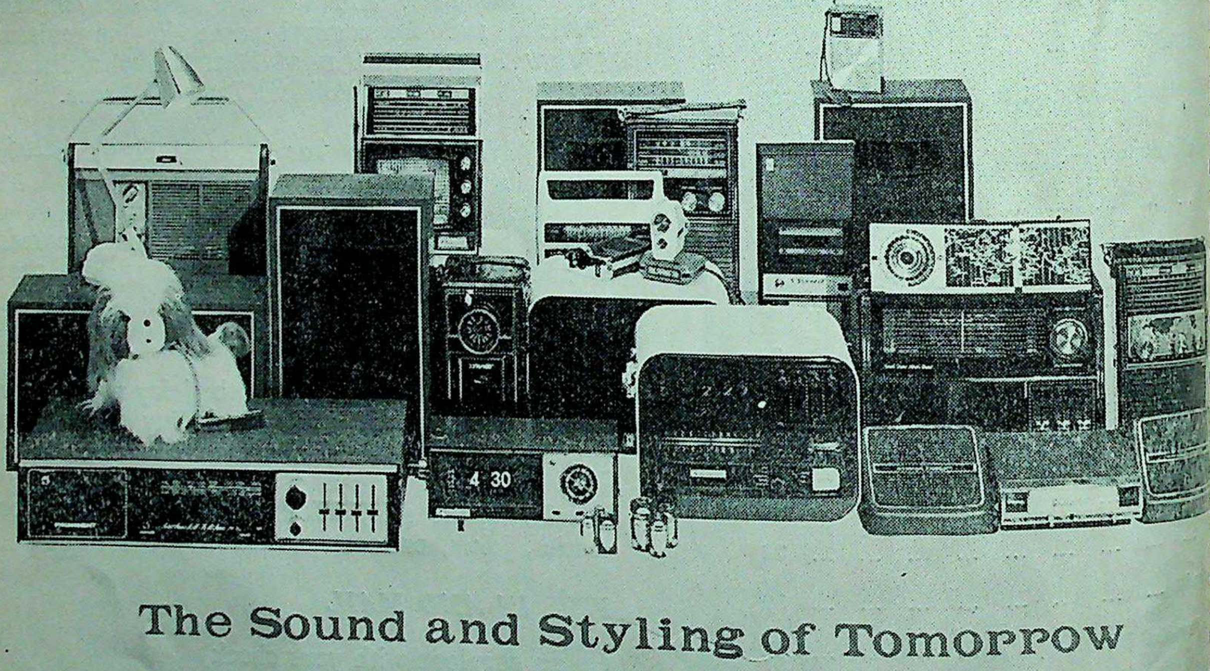

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Exports From India

Achievements

Foreign trade plays an imortant role in a developing ountry like India. Twenty six ears ago India attained the right o build up a better economic uture for the millions of her people. The pattern of foreign rade imposed on the country by he structure of the colonial conomy had to be transformed or accelerating the process of apid economic growth with ocial justice. The change involved a raidical departure from he status of an exporter of primary products and importer of manufactured goods to an exorter of finished products, and mporter of industrial raw material. Consequently, during he last two and a half decades he export sector of the economy, ttained a great dynamism and here has been considerable iversification of trade both commodity-wise and country-wise.

According to the latest statiscs, India's total export increased gnificantly to Rs 1075 crores uring the first half of 1973-74, gistering a rise of 17 per cent ver the exports of the corresonding period of the previous ear. Commodity-wise, exports engineering goods, chemicals nd pharmaceuticals, cotton ece goods and handloom proucts, iron ore, leather goods, offee, spices, cashew kernals, arine products, gems and jewelry, etc. registered a significant crease during the period from pril to September, 1973. With e impressive increase in exports uring the first three quarters of 73 the country looked forward brighter export prospects in e coming years.

India had a number of achieveents in the export front in 72-73. India's exports were visaged to rise progressively m Rs 1360 crores in 1968-69 to Rs 1900 crores in 1973-74 during the Fourth Plan, which implied a compound growth rate of seven per cent per annum. Against this target, the exports already achieved were of the order of over 1961 crores in 1972-73, recording a compound growth rate of 9.6 per cent per annum and an increase of 22 per cent over the previous year.

The balance of trade also showed a surplus of Rs 1644 crores in 1972-73. A considerable change in the trend of exports from traditional to non-traditional commodities was also witnessed during these years. The range of India's export to foreign countries has also changed significantly. Exports of leather and leather manufactures increased from Rs 90.77 crores in 1971-72 to Rs 174.51 crores in 1972-73, unmanufactured tobacco from Rs 42.25 crores to 61.07 crores, fish and fish preparations from Rs 42 crores to Rs 54.45 crores, oil cakes from Rs 40.15 crores to Rs 74.77 crores, engineering goods from Rs 122.30 crores to Rs 138.70 crores, mill-made cotton textile from Rs 66.63 crores to Rs 84.37 crores, cotton yarn from Rs 6.97 crores to Rs 22.83 crores, cotton apparel from Rs 14 crores to Rs 29.9 crores, handicrafts from Rs 81.74 crores to Rs 119.67 crores and castor oil from Rs 6.18 crores to Rs 22.60 crores.

India has also stood successful through the tough competition in the markets of sophisticated and developed countries. Country-wise exports in 1972-73 to European Economic Community increased by 79 per cent, East European countries by 37 per cent and ECAFE by 31 per cent. Exports to USA, U.K. Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, USSR and Poland were also at higher level.

Problems and Prospects

The current financial year is likely to witness a heavy pressure on the reserves, because of the large-scale imports of foodgrains and the spiralling international prices of essential industrial inputs like metals, chemicals, crude oil and fertilizers. The magnitude of the problem has further increased recently because of the price-hike of petroleum and allied products. It has been estimated that even if the consumption of petroleum and allied products were to be reduced by one-third of the present level, India will have to find resources to the extend of Rs 500 crores per year to be able to meet the country's POL requirements alone.

This burden will have repurcussions on India's other normal import requirements for vital industrial raw materials and agricultural outputs like fertilizers, chemicals, non-ferrous metals etc.

New Strategy

It is in this context that India would have to devise a new strategy for meeting increased import bills.

The proposals for substantially increasing exports to oil-producing countries is being considered. With Iraq, within the framework of the present Economic and Technical Agreement, the Government proposes to undertake intensive dialogue to see that the new Trade Plan reflects truly the objectives contained in the Agreement viz "for" developing, extending and consolidating economic and trade relations between their respective countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit."

With Iran also India intends to develop a special economic and trade relationship. To other oil

vive la différence!

During a spirited discussion in Paris over the equality of rights for women, a supporter of the women's rights was provoked to ask: What is the difference between a man and a woman? Promptly a Frenchman burst out: **"Vive la Différence"!**

We, in Bank of India, also join the Frenchman in saying, "Vive la Différence!" But what we refer to is the difference between a bank and a bank— difference in recruitment and training of staff; difference in attitude towards the customers; therefore, difference in efficiency and courtesy.

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producing countries of the region, ike Saudi Arabia, Libya, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Oatar and Baharein, India intends to substantially augment exports of items like, ea, spices, machinery, transport equipment, iron and steel, struc- urals, *basmati* rice and cement. Besides, a number of joint ven- ure proposals with some of these countries are under active sucon- ideration.

As in previous years, there is continuous effort to augment xports to other developing and leveloped countries. The recent Commercial Cooperation Agree- nent with the European Econo- nic Community is a significant breakthrough in India's commer- cial diplomacy, this would enable he country to increase her trade relations with these countries ignificantly. Trade with East European countries on a bilateral and rupee payment basis has also achieved great success specially n 1973. India's trade with hese countries of East Europe ncluding Soviet Union is likely o increase significantly in the oming years.

India would like to promote urther exports of engineering oods, consumer items and nanufactured goods to East Europe, as well as to the rest of he world, so that the share of on-traditional goods would teadily increase in other global xports.

Continuous efforts are being nade towards stepping up of ex- ort production, generation of ex- ort surpluses and further ex- loration of foreign markets. A ries of export promotion mea- ures are in operation including pply of imported raw materials rough replenishment licensing, moval of capacity constructions nd provision of assistance. The le of public sector agencies is so being expanded.

The export strategy in the com- g years would necessarily re- uire greater stress on export oduction and regulation of the owth of domestic demand in ne with plan targets.

Steps are being taken to engthen export efforts to celerate the pace of selfreliant owth of the economy.

Festivals of Indians

Baisakhi

- The Spring Festival -

Vaisakhi or Baisakhi is the first day of the month of Vaisakha—the beginning of the Hindu year in some parts of the country. It is the spring festival, the human tribute that is paid to the fields and the crops which are the very subsistence of man.

Baisakhi marks the end of the toiling season and the beginning of the reaping, when the first crops are harvested and taken into the barnyards of the nation. A proud moment for the cultivators, a happy one for the owners and a celebration is in the air!

For the Sikhs in Punjab and elsewhere, the day has a particular significance, as it was on this day in 1699 that Guru Gobind Singh founded the Khalsa. On this day the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of the Sikhs is worshipped and taken in procession by thousands of devout Sikhs and hymns are sung. Customarily the Sikhs offer prayers at any of the Gurudwaras on Baisakhi day, but the Golden Temple at Amritsar in particular draws exceptionally a huge crowd on that day. During the Moghul Dynasty, the gates of the Golden Temple used to be heavily guarded by soldiers on Baisakhi day, so as to capture the guerilla leaders who were supposed to visit the temple on that day, resulting in severe fighting and bloodshed. But now it is rather a pleasure than a hazard to visit Golden Temple on Baisakhi day and people take a holy dip in the temple waters to atone for their sins.

After the religious ceremonies are over, there is great feasting and rejoicing followed by a number of folk dances in the open fields in the harvest moonlight, among which is the well known colourful Punjabi rural folk dance—the Bangra dance—an essential form of enjoyment of the festival. For the Bangra, men tie bells on their ankles and put on white shirts, colourful lungis and embroidered waistcoats with large mother-of-pearl buttons. They form a ring around a drumbeater and dance for hours—new people joining in as others get tired. The beating of the drums, the dancing, the thumping mad joy, catch young and old in their high spirits.

Men in all their silk coloured lungi, kurtas and jackets and silk turbans and the strong and beautiful Punjabi women in their chunky jewellery exchange greetings and visit the many local melas, the fun spot of the celebrations with several games of skill and colourful eye catching stalls selling many enchanting articles. The tandoori food is a speciality on Baisakhi day, traditionally.

* * *

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Pilgrimage to Sanchi

by

Bepin Behari

The Buddhist pilgrimage of Sanchi had always attracted me. My wife had also heard of its charm, and she constantly goaded me to go there. But, during the last 40 years or so though I passed several times by Bhopal, I never detrained there. The opportunity of visiting this holy shrine never came my way till the other day when my boss called me to ask me to officiate for him at a State level co-ordination committee for the Development of Backward Areas. It was a rare occasion. I was glad that I would be discharging the onerous State responsibilities while satisfying one of the innermost cravings of my heart. I was fired with imagination and enthusiasm for doing the philanthropic work of redressing the poverty of the masses and having the blessings of the Light of Asia, the rare efflorescence of humanity.

Planning for the Bhopal tour involved several steps. Express telegrams were despatched to high State officials informing them of my arrival. Transport and accommodation had to be arranged. Proper reservation for the night's stay had to be secured. More important was the special request to my own General Administration Section requisitioning the staff car. The driver was o be put on overtime as it re-uired a trip in early morning ours.

It was important for three reaons that the G. A. Section hould take a favourable view of he matter. First, the recent iike in petrol price would not inluce my friends to drive me to he airport and my wife knows o driving. Second, the public ransport system in Delhi was not ependable and safe. Thirdly, he permissible travelling allownce of Rs 4 was unacceptable to ny organised transport agency or the service rendered.

Under these conditions, unless the office provided the necessary staff car facility, one had to begin the journey with a deficit budget. I was lucky that the clerk-in-charge promised to oblige me but he also warned me not to take undue risk. He explained that the staff-car driver was after all a human being and he could not be expected to mechanically observe instructions at all hours of the day. I was however not disheartened thinking that the allurement of overtime might wake him up in time to carry me to the airport and save me unnecessary expenditure.

The most difficult task was to break the news on the home front. There were chances of domestic non-co-operation. How could I visit Sanchi without my wife? That would be sacrilege. I could not take her on an official tour. But would she listen to logic? If her mood was off, would she pack my clothes, prepare meals, and wake me up at three o'clock so that I could reach airport in time?

My wife took the incident very calmly. She began to make the necessary preparations. The suitcase was fixed. My breakfast was planned. The night chawkidar was asked to wake me up at three when he went off duty. Whether I should take a cold or hot water bath was debated. Finally, it was decided that I should merely rub myself with a semi-wet towel so as not to catch cold. As the State officials were expected to be more impresed with the clothes one puts on, it was suggested that I should put on my best suit bought 20 years ago at Selfridges in London. It had gone out of shape but the material was good.

The night was unusually long. I studied the files till midnight. The fear of not waking up at three in the morning and the distrust in the staff car not arriving in time prevented me from having even a wink of sleep. I could not take any sleeping pills either. There was the danger of sleeping so profoundly that all arrangements might fail to wake me up.

On this night, I discovered that my little brain contained memories which eluded even the most astute psychologists. Suddenly, the morning bell rang. The chowkidar tapped the door. And, hurriedly I jumped off the bed. It was incredible to find myself ready in just 15 minutes. The scratching of the beard with Indian blades on a winter morning and the expression of will power in taking a cold shower done quicker than a hawk takes in pouncing upon its prey having finished, I gulped two biscuits and a cup of chocolate prepared on a kerosene stove (for the gas had finished 15 days earlier and was not yet replenished), I was ready to set off. The staff car also came just in time and I re-

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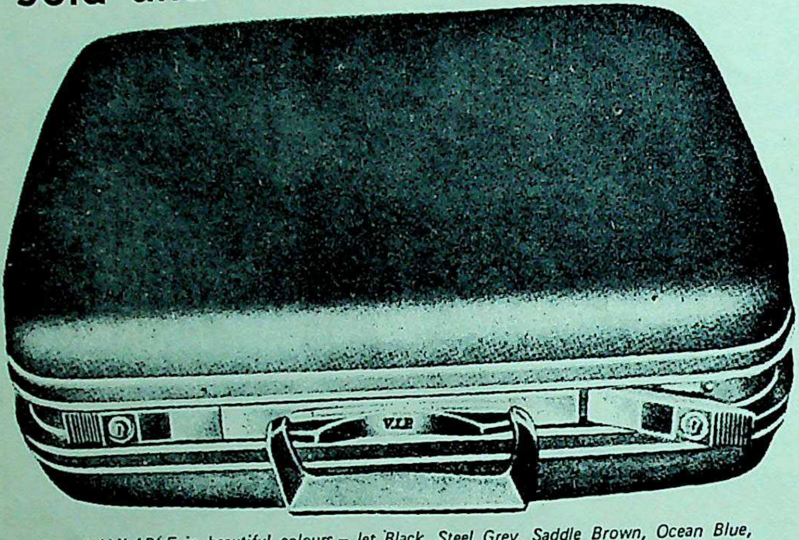

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membered the famous adage that well begun is half done.

With my suitcase I went to the car and was off in no time for the airport. The morning breeze was cool and seemed refreshing and invigorating. My mind was already pre-occupied with the various suggestions I would give, the different problems I would pose before the committee and the accent I would adopt in my speech. All these were important for influencing policy decisions. Every act of mine would be reported back to my boss and the minutest impressions created would be reflected in my Confidential Report on which my future promotion depended. Such were my thoughts when the airport light gleamed in the distance. I was happy I was well ahead of time. At the airport, I slammed the door of the vehicle, took my suitcase, and entered the glass door giving an air of importance anticipating a warm reception from the most hospitable domestic airline in the world.

The usual chaos at the airport is a part of my life. I had to go to this place several times in a month to see off my bosses on their foreign and domestic tours. This chance of myself travelling by air was something new. The familiar sight however seemed a little intriguing. Something was missing there though I did not know what. I tried to assure myself by saying that it might be purely a subjective phenomenon. When one is climbing the official ladder, everything seems different. But, I soon discovered the cause. The Bhopal flight has been cancelled. Indian Airline staff were on a go-slow. They wanted to work overtime, but the management was against it.

Bhopal was not on a trunk route so it was the first victim. This upset my programme. But I was assured there would be full refund of the fare money. The problem was of returning home. What would I tell my wife? No taxi would demand less than Rs 30 at this hour of the morning. The staff car had already gone. The Government will not reimburse even the permissible four rupees. I was not thinking at this moment of the sarcasm from my wife for leaving her alone on my pilgrimage to Sanchi.

Like the inevitable I returned home, spent only rupees twentyfive for the taxi and faced my dear wife with a smile on my face. She was serious; without exchanging many words, she gave me some breakfast and wanted me to be in office in time at least on that day. The first duty of an officer on such occasions is to inform the boss of the incident. On the note intimating him of the cancellation of the Bhopal flight, he wrote two meaningful words: "Seen. thanks". But, I could neither see Bhopal, nor was I thankful for the infructuous, irrecoverable rupees twentyfive either.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

I have received a few copies of his magazine through some of ny English friends. I got your atest copy October/November, 73 and would like to get coninuously.

I am an Indian Citizen at preent working in Libya with hilips. In Libya about 800 ndian Citizens working in diferent departments are all terested to hear about other verseas Indians. Detailed inormation I will give you on hearg from you.

Yohannan P. T.

ripoli, Libya.

3rd February, '74.

Sir,

With reference to the item on page 41 of your October/November 1973 issue of "THE INDIAN", this is to inform you that the caption that you have given to the picture of Finance Minister, Mr Y. B. Chavan, is unfortunate and misleading. I might mention in this connection that the incident was due to the mistake of a junior officer for which the Kenyan Government offered their sincere apologies. There is no truth either in the statement that Mr Chavan had visited various Indian banks during his week's stay in Nairobi not that his flight was delayed by over two hours. I would like in this context to draw your attention to the statement made by the official spokesman of the Government of India issued in New Delhi on October 4, 1973, which was widely reproduced in the Indian press on October 5, 1973.

B. B. Iyer

First Secretary (P&I)

High Commission for

India-Nairobi

Sir,

I write this letter in the hope that my request, as an overseas 'Kenyan' Indian be fulfilled. I have been a regular reader of your magazine and I have been quite impressed, especially with your reports on the various facts and figures.

Reading your July edition, I noticed that you have printed the name of a person requiring pen friends and so, as to my thinking, your magazine is so widely read and popular, I wondered whether you would print my name in your letters to the editor column asking for penpals:

My full name is:

Supinder S. Soin,

Address:

P. O. Box 40978

Nairobi, Kenya

Hobbies:

Stamps and sports

And I would wish to make contacts with pen friends of both sexes.

Supinder S. Soin,

Nairobi.

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Short Story

The Bridge

The bridge was a monstrosity. The little man was determined to do anything to avoid using it.

by

Leena Saha

The mild little man stood at the foot of the overbridge and demolished it in his mind with his hatred. Each girder and each smooth sheet of metal he took apart with loving care in his mind and, quietly orgasmically, blew them all up. He arrested the falling of the scattered shards and made them flutter slowly and gently down like leaves, then gently touch ground with a dull metallic clang.

There was only one part of the bridge he spared—the model of a man smoking a cigarette, whose metal-pivoted arm moved up and down, up and down, with unfailing regularity. Up to his mouth —then down, and a satisfied puff of smoke would issue from his complacent mechanical mouth. (The little man used to wonder what the smoke was made of, and how the mechanical bellow's was operated). The whole hated abric of the bridge was destroyed, but the little man saved the Smoking Man and miraculously uspended him in mid-air.

Then he turned his attention o the throng of people who had been crossing the bridge. He ated them as much as he hated he bridge: after all, they used it. To them it was a more or less onvenient means of crossing the oad. They had no definite feeling about it, like he did. If they had, they would never use it. They would have pulled it apart even while it was being constructed. They would have spat on it when, finished, it reared above them where it had no right to be . . . He spat a feeble little dribble at the bottom of its steps. Then he took a five-minute detour to cross the road at another point.

It was inexplicable the way in which the little man hated the bridge, for on every other matter a definite opinion was unknown to him. His career had been absolutely unexceptional, nothing to set him apart from the common herd, the bridge-crossers. His parents had made the decisions in his life and had set the process in motion which got him, at 23, after a B.A. and a diploma course or two, the job of a stenographer in a minor advertising agency. Eleven years later now, he was still with the same firm, a steady and reliable typist with a salary of nearly Rs 500.

His parents had chosen his wife for him, too (seven months after he had taken his job, as soon as he had been confirmed), and where their decision-making left off, hers took over. Arundhati had definite opinions on quite a lot of diverse subjects, like not wearing clothes with any nylon in them, and cleaning her teeth thrice a day for at least ten minutes every time, and a balanced diet and never running back into the house to fetch something left behind just after she'd gone out . . . but on the matter of the overbridge she was just one of the crowd.

Not that the little man expected her to share this feeling of his, for he never shared any feeling with her. Nobody expected him to share his feelings with them; nobody gave him any credit for any, and they were right. He floated self-sufficiently through life without any friends or any companions and no consciousness of what he was missing. He always did and said what was expected of him, the same as what was expected of everybody else. When, occasionally, he was sick enough to be absent from the office, he would not be asked after; only somebody who had come to rely on his presence would maybe come up to his desk and look vaguely around.

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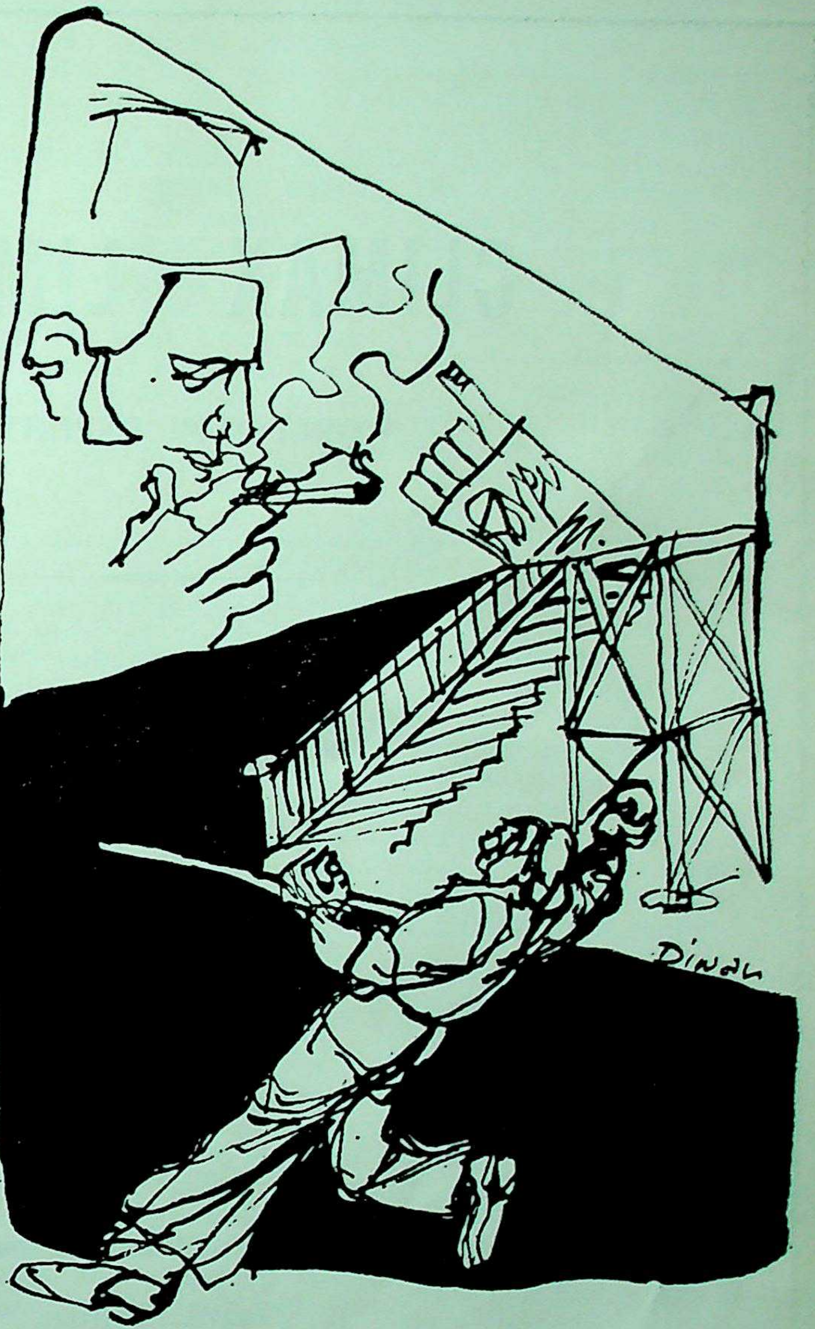
When they made enquiries they vould never remember his name or even think that he had a name; ndicating his empty seat they vould ask "Where's the fellow vho sits here gone?" and, hearng that he was absent, they vould give the work to somebody lse to type out and walk back nconcernedly. Once in a while omebody would notice he had ome back the next day or the lay after and say, "Oh, you're ack?", forgetting about him as oon as the words had left his nouth, and the little man would eel a complacent glow of self-atisfaction at the thought that he ad been missed.

He ate lunch alone out of the iffin-box his wife packed for him very day, dutifully varying the ontents though he never noticed nd never complained. He ever quarrelled with anybody, ecause, having no opinions, he vas entirely without aggressiveess.

Until the bridge came up. hen the irritational hatred came p in him every time he saw it. ut it never occurred to him to ommunicate his hatred to anyne. His one individuality, he egaled himself on it alone. It idn't bother him too much because he used to walk around the ridge instead of over it. And e would always find a few other ridge-dodgers like himself, and would feel a new feeling of arm kinship with them.

Then one day he found policeen posted along the road. untering casually on the roadde of the railings that had been ut up to channel the herd of resisting human beings—on , call them cattle—towards the idge, he was waiting for an opportunity to slip through the fastoving traffic when he saw a liceman standing right in front him on the traffic island at the ossroads. "Get back, get ck," the policeman's waving nd clearly beckoned. But the le man pretended that he dn't seen him, and kept on nning the unbroken flow of ffic.



As he spied an opening . . . WAAAA . . . blared a taxi's horn behind him. He had to turn around. The taxi-driver at the head of the waiting line of traffic gestured him towards the policeman. He had to look at him now. With a stare of sullen resistance, of which he was aware of every atom, he dragged his footsteps back. This brought him to the foot of his adversary, but still on the roadside of the railing. He walked along beyond the bridge. Now, surely, he would be able to beat the bridge and dart unobserved through the traffic and across the road. But what did he see in front of him? Another policeman. One who was observing him sternly and inexorably waving him back.

At this the little man's face took on, unawares a look of grim determination entirely unknown to him before. Rebelliousness in every step, he retreated to the end of the railing, which he would have to walk meekly along the inside of until he had to start climbing the crowded steps of the bridge. Here, surely, he could make a dash for it.

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But as he braced himself, he saw yet another policeman. For one moment the little man thought he was going to rush underneath the bridge, oblivious of the solid wall of traffic, and beat the policeman's head into a pulp. But the expression of the policeman's face was too forbidding. It was the set expression of his mother when she was telling him she had chosen a girl for him, the expression of his wife when she wanted him to take her to a movie, the expression of his father when, with ruler up-lifted to crash down on his knuckles he stood over him to make sure that he was studying. Th moment passed, and the little man found himself walking towards the bridge.

But he was not going to cross it docilely, one of the herd, oh no! with all the self-righteous sulkiness of a spoiled child, he jostled against as many people as he could: he, who always bunched up as small as he could in the train every day, to be as inoffensive as he could to his fellow-passengers. He even managed to tread on a good many toes. Along the top of the bridge, inspired, he pursued a zig-zag course to confuse everybody coming in the opposite direction, and created quite a chain-reaction of brushes, staggering, stares, and ready abuses. On the steps down he took a apid run, banging heavily into veryone who, due to the thickness of the crowd using the bridge, was unable to dodge him. This jarred him more than it did hem as he was somewhat smaller nd lighter than most people, and e reached the bottom batered nd breathless, but . . . oh, so iumphant!

A few steps on from the bridge hich he had just crossed for the rst time and with such ill-will, a an was selling out-of-season weet limes, small, sour, dry and ard. Suddenly a riotous idea wept through the little man's ead, and he grabbed a handful them. Before anybody could ove, he had dashed out into the iddle of the road. Cars screeched to a halt as the lunatic apparition appeared amongst them. But the little man was quite unmindful of this.

He was concentrating on the sternest policeman who, aghast at so flagrant a violation of his authority, stood frozen into a statue with popping eyes and open mouth. Then a sweet lime hit him just below his right eye. His hands shot up to cradle his face and he lowered himself into a sitting position on the road-dividers with his head in his hands.

This scene completely demoralised all the drivers. Traffic piled up instantaneously for a hundred yards each side of the bridge. As new cars came along they applied their brakes, but not soon enough to prevent their bumpers from being severely tested. The drivers at the back of the pile-up were resting their arms on their carhorns, making an offensive and raucious blare; the drivers who could see him were watching the little man's escapade with fascination. Now he was running anyhow, brandishing the remaining sweet limes in his up-lifted hand.

By now the stunned sweet-lime seller had put a boy in charge of his stall and had given chase to the little man. But he didn't dare to follow him into the middle of the road. Instead, he scrambled up the overbridge and watched over the top of built-up prison-cell sides. At once a whole mass of heads leaned out at the top of the bridge walls, while even more bodies scrambled for places. The sweet-lime seller was infuriatedly telling everybody in general: ". . . took as many of my sweet limes as he could carry, he did, and rushed out into the middle of the road before I knew what the hell was happening, look at him now. And me, I couldn't move! I'm afraid of the bastard, he's obviously a dangerous lunatic, what swine let him loose anyway? . . . Why, just look at that, now he's attacked a policeman . . . and look, there he is, running through the cars—they've all stopped . . ."

The running commentary was brought to a halt as a second sweet lime was seen soaring through the air. Incredibly it hit the second policeman with accurate aim full on the collar-bone, and made him stagger and nurse the wound.

The fruit-seller was now struggling to get through the pressing crowd looking over the edge of the bridge. He was determined to catch the little man and force the price of the stolen sweet limes, and more for good measure, if necessary to beat it out of him. At last he got free from the encumbering bodies and shot free like an arrow from a bow. Once down the bridge, he hurtled along the pavement in the general direction in which the little man had made away, only to discover the crowd and the cars unseeable through, much less penetrable, and the railings were an insuperable obstacle. He began shouting: "Catch him, catch him! Thief, thief!"

At last people began surging towards the little man, who turned back and ran faster than ever. Still too quick for them, he let fly his third sweet lime, almost as hard as a cricket ball, and it landed accurately on the first policeman's forehead, reducing him, too, to preoccupations of his own.

The little man kept on running along the middle of the road, menaced by a growing band of pursuers on the left-side pavement. When he noticed the danger he turned again, and made for the right pavement. The restraining railing loomed up before him, but it didn't stop him. Without stopping to think, he found that he had cleared it in one huge impossible leap!

Even after getting over the railing, the little man didn't stop running. It was his hour of glory, the one time in his life, he knew, when he ever would have shown any force, any character. He had no intention of spoiling it.

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all by getting caught and beaten up—or sent to jail, he suddenly realised with sinking courage.

. . . He couldn't run any more. The chase had spread to the right side of the road and they were closing in on him, a rat in a trap. Though hands gripped his arms painfully and he was dragged to a halt. The last of his burst of energy went in a couple of defeated struggles, and he huddled into himself for protection against the barrage of blows.

But they didn't come. Instead, some other policemen had materialised on the scene. ("So many police on traffic duty? An unnecessary, undemocratic, repressive duty like this? No wonder no one's left to catch the criminals and hoarders!" he thought sullenly). They whisked him into a police van, and after five minutes it drew up in front of the court buildings.

Oh yes, the little man remembered reading in the papers that a new wing of the court had been set up recently to deal with traffic offenders straightaway. "Well, I'm in for it," he thought. 'So I may as well give them something to think about."

"Yes . . .?" the judge asked.

Lawyers were hastily briefed, eporters and more policemen ssembled, and the courtroom illed up and took on its age-old rder. The Traffic Commisioner had been spending a great leal of his time in the new court ince its inception, and he was here too, in an ostentatious antage position at the back of he room.

"Accused of assaulting policeen in the performance of their uty—and of contravening the ighway regulations by crossing he road instead of the overridge," a voice somewhere reted, the little man couldn't see here. The sweetlime vendor nd his claims for compensation ad been overlooked.

"Do you plead guilty or not ilty?" asked the judge.

"Yes, I threw sweet limes at the policemen, I hit them all! They were hard like cricket balls and down they went! They tried to herd me on to that bridge! They made me go on that bridge, and I hate it."

'So you did cross the overbridge?" asked the judge, completely confused by this farrago of confused pronouns.

The prosecution smoothly explained that, having crossed the overbridge, the little man had suddenly run amuck in the middle of the road.

"Is he of sound mind?" asked the judge.

This gave the layers pause; but the little man was stung. He bellowed: "Of course I am! It's only that I hate the bridge, and I won't cross on it any more!"

This was taken as sufficient proof that he was sane enough to know what he was doing, and his trial for assaulting the policemen went on. He was, of course. found guilty and was fined Rs 100. Not having that amount with him, he defiantly signed a bond.

"Now, do you plead guilty to contravening the Traffic Act?

"NO!" screamed the little man. "Surely I have a right to cross the road wherever I please!"

The lawyer defending him interposed. "May we hear the ruling on road-crossing?" he asked.

From a bulky volume the clerk of the court read out, after much frantic searching among the pages: ". . . the pedestrian shall be prohibited by law from crossing the road at points where a pedestrian crossing or other alternatives exist."

"Thank you," said the defence lawyer. "Now, I think there is no pedestrian crossing near the overbridge?"

"There is not," it was agreed.

"Then we have to examine the question, is the overbridge really an alternative to a pedestrian crossing? I would point out that it is a different structure, on a different level altogether. It has to be ascended and descended by means of stairs. My lord, how can, say a man in a wheelchair cross the overbridge? A wheelchair patient, I need hardly remind you, is officially counted as a pedestrian. And those carrying head-loads, too, do not use the overbridge, and they are certainly pedestrians."

Silence.

"The Highway Code, therefore," he continued, "does not lay down any rules binding on overbridges. For, if a man in a wheelchair and a man with a head-load cannot cross the overbridge, then an overbridge is not a valid alternative to a pedestrian crossing."

'Granted . . ." reluctantly conceded the judge.

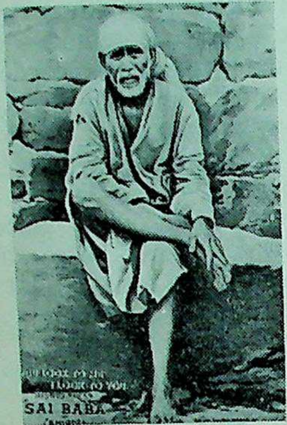
"So I can cross the road wherever I want!" yelled the little man, who had carefully been following the lawyer's reasoning. "I don't have to cross the bridge!"

Following on the first concession, this logically had to be granted, though exception was taken to the form of expressing the conclusion.

The Traffic Commissioner scribbled a note to be handed to his subordinates. It read: "Get the status of an overbridge defined with relation to pedestrian crossings." And to hell with people in wheelchairs, he thought irritably, and people with headloads, they always make traffic problems . . .

But the lawyer for the defence, having won his case for the little man, tried to point out to him that the overbridge had been constructed for his safety, his and the lakhs of pedestrians who used it every day. "This court," ruled the judge, "cannot compel you to use the bridge. But it strongly advises you to do so."

'No!" the little man bellowed, his face congested with more than



If you look to me
I look to you.
—Sai Baba of Shirdi

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a flush of victory. "No, no, no! It's an aesthetic monstrosity! It's an outrage! The people who walk across it have no self-respect, they have no souls! They have forgotten they are human beings—they all follow each other across the bridge just because it is there!"

"Maybe," said the judge drily, "But they are safe".

This provoked the little man, in a frenzy now, to another outburst. "All right!" he gasped. "But I choose not to use it! I don't care if I'm not safe. That's MY BUSINESS, and nobody else's. Goddammit" a—word which had never till now left his lips—"goddammit, I have a constitutional right to do something unsafe if I want to! I HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO RISK GETTING RUN OVER, IF I CHOOSE TO!"

The little man had clearly passed the bounds of logic and was screaming like a madman. The judge and the lawyers were secretly thinking that they had made a mistake in trying him. Since the verdict had been decided, however, they ignored this and had him virtually carried out of the courtroom.

As his unprecedental fit wore off, the little man found himself walking home. Gradually his frenzied anger wore off and his tension relaxed into a leaden weariness. This he shook off by remembering his rebellion on the bridge and in the courtroom. Now it that it was over, he was astonished that he could ever have behaved so strongly—so definitely, so extremely.

So lost was he in the wonder of the revelation of his new strength (was it lost or found, he wondered) that the next thing he realised was that he had reached the bridge again. He looked as well as he could up and down the road—it was dark now, and the lights were dazzling—he could see no policemen.

He was both disappointed and proud at the same time. Disappointed because he would not be challenged and would not be able to say in a ringing voice: "You cannot compel me to cross on the bridge! The court said so!" and proud because he felt that it must surely have been his sweet-lime throwing which had caused them to leave their posts.

He looked up and down the road again and was fairly sure that the policemen had, indeed, gone off duty. His gaze sought out his friend, the Smoking Man, cheerily illuminated by a bright light arching over his head. And up and down moved his arm, up and down, and he belched his puffs of smoke with a soothing regularity.

The little man indulged in his favourite vision again, of blowing up the bridge but leaving the Smoking Man smiling his benediction in space. He could actually see him there, with his friendly painted smile and his hand moving. . . . Up and down! It suddenly recalled the policemen's gestures!

"No," gasped the little man, mesmerised. He had to move closer and per right into the dull eyes of the Smoking Man to see if he had that authoritarian, lord-or-the-earth policeman's look. But it wasn't that. His eyes were kindly and beckoning, almost twinkling through the intermittent haze of smoke. Relief flooded through the little man's mind, it was all right, the Smoking Man hadn't deceived him, and he reached into his pocket for his packet of cigarettes. His hand encountered an unexpected object, smooth and round. It was one last sweet lime which he had hastily stuffed in there as he ran.

He knew just what he wanted to do with it. He moved closer to the Smoking Man, once again amidst all the cars and traffic and once again oblivious of them. He poised the sweet lime in his hand and aimed it at the Smoking Man. And then, suddenly, but quite instinctly he saw the Smoking Man wink! With a fulfilled smile, the little man tossed his sweet lime lovingly at the Smoking Man. It landed like an exuberant caress smack between his eyes an fell down wetly.

At the same time the cars had become tired of avoiding the little man. A driver in a greater hurry than the rest pushed forward into what he thought was empty space, and a lurch, a screening of ineffectual brakes and a sickening mass on the road was all that was left.

A drop of sweet-lime juice fell, like a tear, from the Smoking Man's eyes on to the Little Man's body.

Indian Housewife Cuts Off Her Tongue

When an Indian housewife was called 'snake-tongued' by a woman, during a row, she became so angry that she grabbed a razor blade and cut off part of her own tongue.

The incident took place in Dar-es-salaam, the Tanzanian capital. The victim of her own anger was an Indian lady, Mrs S. H. B. Oza.

A quarrel developed between her and a relative with whom she shares the house. The two women are married to two brothers.

When Mrs Oza was referred to as "snake-tongued" she was overcome by anger, reached for a razor blade and severed a part of her own tongue.

When she was rushed to the hospital, the doctors enquired where the severed part of the tongue was, she pointed towards home.

A relative who ran back home to look for the tongue piece found it safely placed in a cup of tea.

Mrs Oza is back home recovering from the product of her own anger.

— Shamlal Puri.

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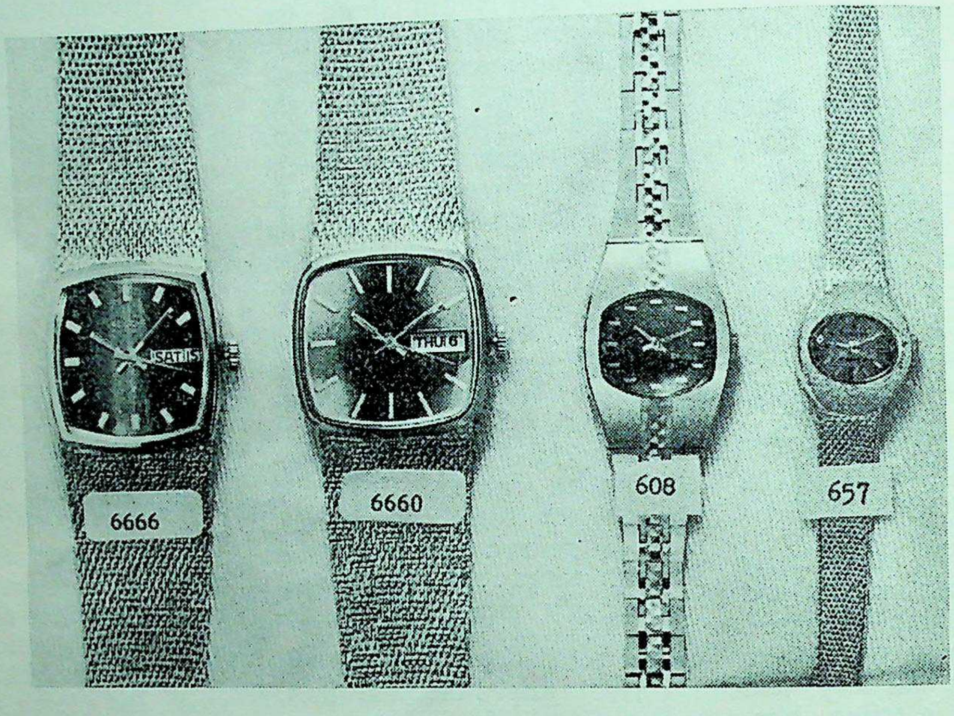

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Reader's Ask

Q. *Can I hold my Indian Passport and still be a Hongkong Belonger?*

A. I think so. But why don't you ask the Director of Immigration.

Q. *What is the nationality of a child born in America of parents holding Indian Passports?*

A. American.

Q. *Why did Waheeda Rehman break off her engagement to Farid Sadiqque?*

A. We will request our film's correspondent Priyalata Pal to enquire from the party on your behalf.

Q. *What will happen to Sanjay Gandhi's car in view of petrol shortage?*

A. He might start developing another model requiring no petrol.

Q. *What lessons can India learn from the oil squeeze strategy of Arabs?*

A. Are you suggesting that India should squeeze countries who are bulk buyers of its raw material.

Q. *What is going to happen to Kenyan Asians whose work permits are expiring shortly?*

A. Either the work permits are rennewed or they leave Kenya for countries whose nationals they are.

Q. *What is the major outcome of Shrimavo—Indira Gandhi pact concluded at New Delhi recently?*

A. 150,000 stateless persons will get nationalities; 75,000 return to India and 75,000 become Ceylonese. The Tamil problem in Ceylon will continue and will have to be resolved to the satisfaction of those affected by government policies.

Q. *Why did you make your January issue an advertisement special?*

A. Even a non-profit organ has to survive, what with price increases across the board.

Q. *I saw an Indian V.I.P. in Hamburg — all drunk and ......*

A. So what?

Q. *In an earlier issue you produced figures of Indians in different countries. Your figures for Fiji were wrong as I know about it personally.*

A. The article carried—footnote saying that the responsibility for accuracy of data was that author alone. At any rate, you send your figures for Fiji. We will publish it.

Q. *Your editors never come to Kuwait. We are a very tolerant country. Hindus are quite safe.*

A. Send us the passage first thing in the morning. The INDIAN goes wherever the Indians are.

Q. *What sustains a person during bad days?*

A. Hope. Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey towards it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us.

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From Filmland

Priyalata Pal

Asha Sachdev

The most talked about actress today

Asha Sachdev—a Poona Institute girl and a B. K. Ishara discovery, has zoomed to popularity having made the initial impression on the silver screen, as the sexiest star of 1973, an attractive figure and generous curves. Asha's outspokeness has made her the target of gossip writers, and she has hit the headlines in film magazines.

1973 can also be called Asha Sachdev's year as far as gossip columns are concerned. They got ready made material from her about her friendly relations with last year's most Garam Dharmendra about whom she said, "My infatuation for Dharmendra is known to all. I liked him when I was a kid in panties. Since "Anpadh" like "Anpadh", I am razy for him."

"But you do know that he is happily married man?"

"Who said I want to marry im. I am the last person to vreck his home. I am merely a an—a fan with an approach to im," said Asha.

"Are you trying to cash on ssociating his name with yours?"

"Not at all. I'm not in love ith Dharmendra. I've no roman- c inclinations towards him. If I ist look at him and wish him, oes it mean I'm trying to cash n his name." "If someday some roducer comes to me with an ffer to work opposite Dhar- endra I'll have a heart attack. nd I don't want to die so oung," said Asha with a mis- ievous smile.

Asha Sachdev

"Why have you decorated yourself with so many gossips? She replied, "Gossip columnists are my best friends. I sit with them, discuss with them and when it comes to send in their 'copy' I'm their best target."

"Now I've come to a conclusion that friendship with a policeman is no more dangerous than as with scandal mongers. For them two plus two is twenty two."

Asha started shooting for "Vada Tera Vada" of Batra Mohinder and for B. R. Ishara's "Hathi Ke Dant", opposite Rakesh Roshan, even when she was a student. Then an actor of no importance—Joginder signed her for the title role of his own "Bindiya aur Bandook" which was something and he repeated her in "Do Chattane".

Asha's long awaited "Hifazat" was so so. She was much better in "Ek Nari Do Roop", but was at her ravishing best in "Double Cross" inspite of Rekha and surpassed all previous roles in "Kashmakash".

Ram Dayal's "Do Number Ke Ameer", an Asha Sachdev starrer, will prove once again that Asha is another versatile actress from the Institute, who has been welcomed in a big way by cinema-goers as well as producers.

FILMS IN THE MAKING

Pran joins Khalifa:

Pran the busiest actor to-day, has joined the star cast of J. S. films "Khalifa" being produced by Prakash Mehra from the screenplay of Nabondu Ghosh. Randhir Kapoor portrays a double role in this film for the first time, which also includes Rekha, I. S. Johar, Sonia Sahni, Alka, Mohan Choti and Urmila Bhatt. R. D. Burman scores music for the lyrics of Gulshan Bawra.

Lastest comedy team of the Indian screen

A sensational comedy team by Raj Kapoor and Rajendra Kumar playing the roles of two amateur blundering detectives in the film "Do Jasoos" is being produced by Naresh Kumar.

Raj Kapoor is the 'Heart'—the simpleton among the two, while Rajendra Kumar is the 'Brain'—the clever guy. The cast of the film includes Prem Chopra and the new comers Bhavna Bhatt and the 'Bobby' singer Shailendra Singh.

Jugnu is now "Azaad":

Producer Director Pramod Chakravorty, the maker of the hit movie of 1973 titled "Jugnu" has launched his newest entertainment vehicle known as "AZaad". Once again the he-man Dharmendra, the hottest actor of 1973, has been teamed up with the dream girl Hema Malini, along with Ashok Kumar, Pran, Sulochana, and Mehmood. S. D. Burman is to score music for this film. This is not just another 'Jugnu" in the making, but is the assembly of people who made Jugnu and are now working together in "AZAAD".

Film 'Aahat' completed:

Producer Frank Fernand completed the shooting of his Vishal Gomantak Pictures' colour film "Aahat", featuring Jaya Bhaduri, Vinod Mehra, and Bindu. Jaya portrays a blind girl in this film for the first time.

Soviet film festival

Recently a week-long festival of Russian films was organised in Bombay. A Soviet film delegation consisting of Alexander Zarkhi (Producer of "Anna Karenina"), Donatas Banionis—a very popular actor and a young and promising actress Tatyana Bedova, was in India during the festival time. Some of the classics and light programme films shown at the fete included—"Dawns are Quiet Here", "Crime and Punishment", "Taming of Fire", "The Black Sun", "Step Mother", "Saplings", and "Solaris" all feature films.

Canadian Artists

Film actor Gilles Carl and film actress Carole Laure, who were in Bombay recently to participate in the Canadian film fete.

Step Mother

A scene from the Russian film of the same title.

Canadian film festival

A week long festival of Canadian Films was also in town last month. Seven feature films and 13 documentaries were shown during the week.

Attending the festival was a four-member Canadian film delegation, led by Mr Michacli D. Spencer, of the Canadian Film Development Corporation, Mr Gilles Carl, a Foremost director, actress Carole Laure—who played an important role in the film "Death of a Lumberjack" and Miss Maqbool Jung, a film critic in Canada.

The seven feature films shown were "Death of a Lumberjack" (A); "Kamouarska" (A); "Christmas Martian" (U); "Wedding in White" (A); "U-Turn" (A); "Rejheanne vani" (U), and "Isabel" (in colour. Also shown thirteen shorts—"Hot "Balablok", "Bighorn", tion", "The Owl and the "Nove ming", "Blake", "Zikk "Street Musique", "How Death came to "Air", "Special Place "Ballet Adagio".

Three dimensional shooting for Sanjay's "Chandi Sona":

For the first time in India, hree-dimensional cinematic effects will be achieved in Sanjay's 'Chandi Sona", written, produced nd directed by Sanjay himself vho plays the leading role in the ilm opposite Parveen Babi.

During the recent shooting of his eastmancolour film, a solid lastermould tall pyramid was ut up, against a giant painted ackdrop of landscape. Thus, or the first time in the history of ndian cinema, 'cut-outs' were sed during location shooting. The distance between the camera nd the 'cut-out' was an incredible 150 feet while the total perspective' of the scene will be nore than 250 yards.

Besides Sanjay and Parveen abi, the star cast includes Pran, srani, Kamini Kaushal, Paintal, anny Denzongpa, and the eteran Premnath. Raj Kapoor nakes a special and friendly appearance in the film. The outoor shooting of "Chandi Sona" ill take place mostly in the picuresque Mauritius Islands.

Geeta Mera Naam" ready for release

This year's most eagerly awaitmovie "Geeta Mera Naam" ll be released shortly in Bomy and other places. Co-starring nil Dutt and Sadhana, the film produced by Attam Prakash d directed by Sadhana Nayyar. ading the star cast of the movie Feroz Khan in a romantic role, pported by Rajendranath, hala Sachdev, Mehmood Jr., l Helen. The music is scored Laxmikant Pyarelal.

Highlights of the movie include exciting scene of ordeal by , a train robbery, a sequence ned at Ooty, a unique climax ne in which human beings are idated and turned into wax ues, and the famous 'Panther lk' of Sunil Dutt in a Giant's . Sadhana plays a double in this film.

Mumtaz to get married

Mumtaz

Well-known Indian film star Mumtaz is getting married and leaving films in May, 1974.

The marriage date has been set for May 29.

The lucky bridegroom is former Uganda millionaire Mayur Madhwani who now stays in London. Mr Madhwani belongs to the famous Madhwani group of industries in Uganda, which was the target of Ugandan President Idi Amin's wrath early last year when he took steps to "Africanise" the Ugandan economy. Since then, Mr Madhwani has been living in London, though his family still controls several industries in Uganda.

Mumtaz met Mr Madhwani just over a year ago, and she first introduced him to the Indian film world at the marriage of famous film star Rajesh Khana with Dimple Kapadia, who was then starring in her first film, 'Bobby'.

After her marriage, Mumtaz will stay in London with her husband, who is several years younger than her.

Starting her film career about 15 years ago with a side role in 'Gehra Daag', Mumtaz went on to act in stunt films.

Although she got good billing in these, no well-known star was prepared to act with a heroine of stunt films. However, Mumtaz gradually began to be recognised as an actress in her own right, and has now acted opposite most big stars on the Indian screen, from funster Mehmood to Dilip Kumar and current rage Rajesh Khanna.

Mumtaz currently has five films on hand, but is confident she will complete them before her marriage. The five films are: "Aap ki Kasam", "Roti", and "Chor Machaye Shor" (all opposite Rajesh Khanna), "Lafange", and "Prem Kahani".

It is interesting to note that one of her incomplete films 'Roti' had come to her because its heroine Dimple Kapadia had married and left films. Dimple's husband Rajesh Khanna is the hero of the film.

Shabana: Actress with Talent

Looking at her one wouldn't think she's a film actress for there is nothing filmi about Shabana Azmi—except her talent. Not the conventional good looks, glitter and glamour. But she is photogenic.

I met Shabana the day after her engagement to Benjamin Gilani, a final year actor-student of Poona's Film Institute. Shabana too is from the Institute. She was last year's gold medallist and had been receiving offers even before she finished her course. In Shabana's words, "the Institute closed on April 30 and the next morning at nine I was expected to start working for Kanti Lal Rathod's 'Parinaya'. I had just time to pack a bag, bid everyone a hurried 'bye' and catch a train to Bombay."

Over lunch we talked about her engagement party—a filmi affair attended among others by Begum Akhtar and documentary film maker Sukhdev. Shabana showed me her ring—a beautiful one studded with three diamonds—and the photographs of the function. Shabana and Benji plan to get married in May after Benji finishes his course. "It's going to be a civil marriage," said Shabana. "A very quick and quiet affair."

Shabana Azmi in "Parinaya"

Shabana talks at length about the Institute. "You know, when I joined the Institute. I was a very different person—I had no confidence at all. When people would praise me for my performances on the stage (she has won the Best Actress award in an All India Drama competition). I would think they were praising me simply for the sake of saying something, not because they really meant what they said. I had indeed a very poor opinion of myself. But the Institute changed all that. One of the first things it did to me was build up my self-confidence. I began to realise my worth, and then it became easy for me. You see, I am one of those people to whom things come fairly easily, and with a little bit of effort I can achieve a lot, I feel."

Earlier, Shabana's mother told me that Shabana thinks a lot about her acting instructor, Roshan Taneji, back at the Institute "Shabana says that even if she gets the tiniest possible roles under him, she'd leap at the chance." Mrs Shaukat Kaifi Azmi recalled with a smile. Shabana is a great admirer of Shyam Benegal too, under whose direction she has just completed Ankur with Anant Nag. "Shyam is such a cool, clear-headed man always, so patient with us newcomers. You know, he would even take the trouble of shooting the film sequence-wise, something that's done very rarely (usually all the scenes requiring the same setting are shot one after another)—just so that we could grow with the story as if proceeded. That was a great help to us, because Anant and I were total strangers when shooting b just like Lakshmi and Surya the film. Later, as the story gressed, Lakshmi and Surya gan to know each other b just as Anant and I were b ning to understand each better. So that even later, I had to do the bed scene Anant, I did not feel the awkward about it, because now, Anant was no longe stranger. On the other han Shyam had got us to do that in the beginning—before came to know each oth would not have been able to at all the way Lakshmi ha feel, and would probably ended up messing the thing."

Shabana says she derived of satisfaction from p Lakshmi. "For one thing, I playing a person totally myself—an uneducated, h rustic of Andhra. It w great experience for me. I my role in (Parinaya) to am Rekha Pandit, a thoro modern girl, who falls in with a poor school-master village. The school-mast played by Romesh Sharma Institute's gold medalist year before last. Romesh cidentally, is a marvellous to work with. Off the set so gay and warm, such fu on the set he is a very inte and sensitive actor. You see the way he has really ed up his role in 'Parinaya

Shabana has about eigh on hand right now, in K. A. Abbas' "Faasla" Raman Khanna, an as ye titled film opposite Kumar, and Navketan's publicised "Ishq, Ishq, Ish Dev Anand and Zeenat A be shot in Nepal. Shabana to do any and every kind though she feels she does in serious ones. She's an ligent person, and a gay ex

—Kalyani

Indians Abroad

FIJI

AI will not fly to Fiji

Air India will discontinue its weekly service to Fiji because of the oil crisis and the losses on the run.

This decision has surprised aviation circles since a bilateral air pact with Fiji, stipulating two services by each of the national carriers, was concluded only towards the end of January. Fiji's deputy prime minister, Sir P. K. Ganilau, came to New Delhi to sign the agreement.

In November, an Indian team including Mr N. Sahgal, secretary of the ministry of tourism and aviation, Mr K. K. Unni, managing director of Air India, and Mr A. K. Sarkar, director of regulation and information, DGCA, visited Fiji to sign a bilateral pact with Fiji's national airlines, Air Pacific.

If the reason for discontinuing the service was the oil crisis, then there was no point in negotiating or signing the air pact. By January, the government knew the magnitude of the oil crisis.

Fijians Disappointed

For Fijians of Indian origin, who constitute over 50 per cent of their country's total population, the Air India service showed the flag. The fact that Fiji was keen on signing the pact showed that it was eager to promote friendly ties with India.

K. K. Unni

Fijians now feel let down. This feeling is shared by about 1,500 Fijians studying in India. Many important people have conveyed their disappointment to the Indian ambassador in Fiji, Mr Bhagwan Singh, who has communicated their feelings to the foreign office.

Mr Kewal Singh, India's foreign secretary, was also apprised of Fijians' feelings when he visited that country last month. The Fijians say that lack of aggressive salesmanship and less frequent flights account for the lean traffic on Air India flights. If Air India started two or more flights instead of one service a week, it would certainly have made it popular.

Charter Prospect

It is also felt that Air India should have operated its service on weekdays. At present the flight reaches Nandi on Friday afternoon and leaves for Sydney the following morning. People want to reach Sydney of Nandi on a working day and not on week-ends.

Bhagwan Singh

Kewal Singh

Instead of letting the aircraft lie idle for 20 hours at Nandi, Air India could offer to operate charter services on one of the Fijian internal routes such as Samoa, or Rarotonga.

The two-way distance of 2,000 miles between Nandi and one of these points could be covered in about four hours. This would have certainly helped Air Pacific, which is short of aircraft, and also increased Air India's revenues.

TANZANIA

Indians have a role to play

At the cross roads

Asians have a vital role to play in the development of Tanzania, though the future of their 'dukas' (shops) is bleak, was the view expressed by Dr A. Y. A. Karimjee, a business magnate. The Government owned 'Sunday News' interviewed Dr Karimjee.

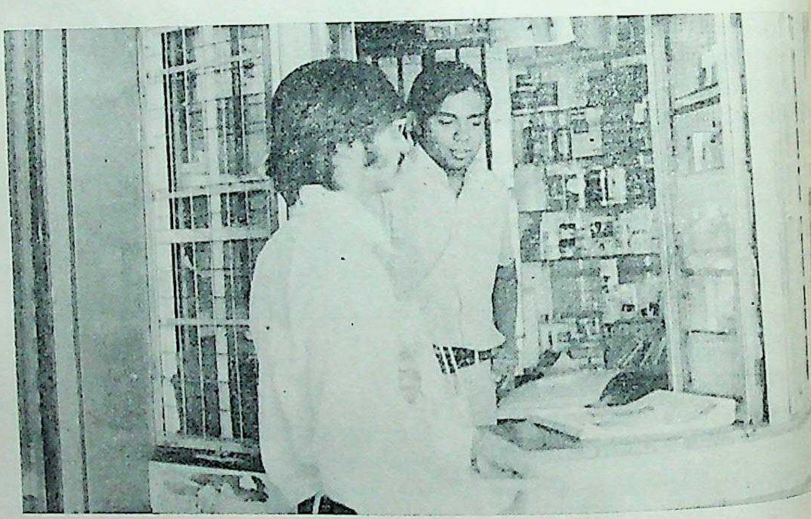
Dr Karimjee, the only Tanzanian of Indian origin to be conferred the first ever Honorary Degree, by President Julius Nyerere, the Chancellor of Dar es salaam University, is a prominent public man. He has associated himself with numerous nation building tasks. Way back in 1951, he was elected the first non-European mayor of Dar es salaam. He has also been the Speaker of National Assembly and was the gentleman in the Chair, when the Instrument of Independence were handed to Mwalimu Julius Nyerere. At present, Dr Karimjee controls the family business, the multi-million Karimjee Jivanjee complex. He is a Director of the state owned National Development Corporation and is also a trustee of Tanzania National Parks.

With all this valuable background, Dr Karimjee's observations on the Indian community in Tanzania are realistic observations with hardly any touch of species of exaggeration.

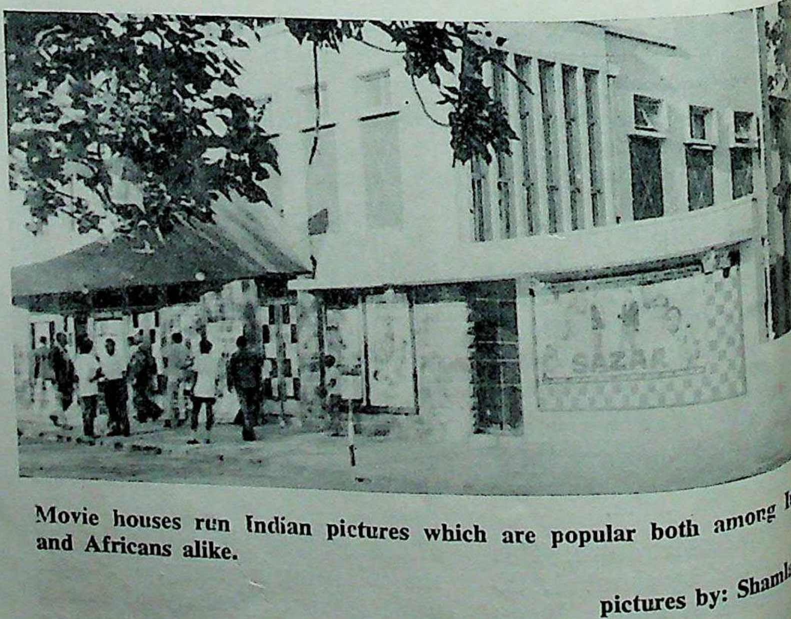
When asked what he felt is the future of the 'dukawallah' (more of a reference to the Indian shopkeepers), the business magnate felt that the small trader will have opportunities to keep his shop's doors open, but ultimately he will have to close his shop with the advent of co-operative shops. He is definitely optimistic over the future of the Indians here when he remarked, ". . . I'm sure they will be able to fit in somewhere in the new pattern of life in Tanzania . . ."

KENYA WATCH CO LTD

The Asian has to think of himself and his future and this can only be d by taking the African as a partner in his activities. Isolation is surely answer to integration, and Indians now seem to realise it.



With the advent of co-operative shops, the Indian trader will have to m to a different sphere of life, in Tanzania.



Movie houses run Indian pictures which are popular both among In and Africans alike.

pictures by: Shamlal

Dr Karimjee believes that there won't be another Uganda type en-masse expulsion of Indians from Tanzania. He commended the sense of justice and value for human rights in Tanzania. To quote him, "I do not fear that history might repeat itself here, as Tanzania's policy is based on the principles of justice fairness and non-racialism."

When asked to comment on many Asians, who despite being Tanzanian citizens have left Tanzania, Dr Karimjee remarked that though the Government's socialist policy did create hardships for many Asians, when their houses were nationalised, but after some thought the Government is now returning many buildings to their former owners. And this is a welcome trend.

Dr Karimjee did not agree to a suggestion that a 'go back to the Indian-sub continent' movement be started on the lines of American Negros. This movement of "go back to India" can never be started by Indians as it would not be a favourable benefit to anyone.

Himself a dedicated personality, Dr Karimjee has spent his whole life in this country. His father and grandfather were born here.

Though thousands of words have been written condemning the Asians for their isolationist tendencies, Dr Karimjee had valuable comments to make. He gave food for thought to the troubled African minds, which tend to label such isolationist tendencies in the Indians as tantamounting to discrimination. He said, "Persons of similar origin, culture, language and background tend to remain together. This is true of Tanzanians of indegenous origin as well . . ." Dr Karimjee agreed that this tendency was more evident in Asians, but he reminded, it is vanishing at a reasonable pace with the coming up of integrated schools, sports, social clubs etc.

The interview also touched a very sensitive point-why do some Asian parents threaten to immolate themselves if their children express their intentions to marry black people.

Dr Karimjee in his reply said the younger generation is on their own and will not be deterred by old world prejudices. What matters in a marriage is 'love' and if love is there, nothing can come between the happiness of two people. (This means the old Indian society norms, today stand strangled—and true, they should be so, for, nothing can interfere more in somebody's happiness than the farce of a so called society and its rigidity, with which many Indian parents are totally blinded brackets are my own words).

The well known personality was disturbed at the fact that many Indian students, who despite being educated at the expense of the Government, failed to return to the country. He suggested strict safeguards, "to ensure no student absconded and that every student educated at the nation's expense should repay his debt to the nation . . ."

Can the income gap between the Tanzania Asian and the African be bridged was the next question.

Though, Dr Karimjee admitted, the indigenous people are receiving more employment opportunities than the Asians but still there appears to be an income gap. This is due to the fact that an Asian is used, to frugal living and plans for the future of his family whereas the African has yet to cultivate the 'thrifty' outlook in his earnings.

The last question was a very interesting question. When asked to add 'anything' he liked, Dr Karimjee said, "Though, I am born in this country and my family is closely associated with the country for nearly 150 years and when independence came, I was the first person to apply for and obtain Tanzanian citizenship, from the questions you have put to me, you also seem to think, I'm an Asian and not a Tanzanian . . ."

Dr Karimjee has surely clarified a lot of burning issues on the Asians. I too feel that his answers to questions are reasonable, well thought and have defended the Asian community from the tirades of numerous people. He has given a food for thought to the Africans—that integration can not be bought, integration can not be thrust, integration comes by itself.

Jail for Indian who knocked President's car

An Indian resident in Tanzania who became the first ever driver to knock Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere's car was jailed for 15 months at the end of a State Appeal to the High Court in Dar es Salaam, the Tanzanian capital.

Abdulrehman Dawood (23) faced court charges for reckless driving when he was involved in a Collision with the Presidential car in which President Nyerere was being driven along Ocean Road, a Dar es salaam street.

Dawood, a mechanic was fined 430/- Tanzanian shillings for reckless driving. The Republic appealed against the sentence. Increasing the sentence, Chief Justice Mr Augustine Saidi said it was obvious Dawood drove his car dangerously. Due to faulty brakes, worn out tyres and defective steering he could not stop when other cars in front of him stopped to let the Presidential motorcade pass.

Mr Saidi said he failed to understand how Dawood came to collide with the Presidential car which was always led by a 'sweep' car to warn the drivers.

The High Court accepted the Republic's plea to enhance the sentence which was enhanced to a 15 month jail sentence and a 700 Tanzanian shillings fine.

—Shamlal Puri.

TURKEY

Indian Film Festival Inaugurated

An Indian Film Festival organized jointly by the Turk Sinamatek Association and the Indo-Turkish Cultural Association was inaugurated in Istanbul recently, by Ambassador K. R. Narayanan.

The Director of the Turk Sinematek Association stated that Indian films and prominent film Directors like Satyajit Ray and Raj Kapoor were well-known in Turkey. He wished that Indian films would be screened in Turkey in large numbers in the future.

Film critics, writers, heads of consular missions, Government Officials, and members of business community attended the inauguration and witnessed the screening of "Charulata", which was greatly appreciated by them.

A reception was held by His Excellency, the Ambassador of India Madame Narayanan in the French Cultural Centre, Ankara, on the occa of the inauguration of the Indian Film Festival on 27th February, 1974. Indian Film Festival was inaugurated by His Excellency Ambassador S Gunver, Director-General of Cultural Affaires, Ministry of Foreign Af Picture taken at the reception shows His Excellency, Ambassador S Gunver and Madame Gunver with His Excellency, the Ambassador of I and Madame K. R. Narayanan.

ADEN

Hardly 160 Indians left in Aden

All but a few of the 16,000 Indian settlers in Aden have now left that country leaving behind their properties because of the difficulties created by immigration laws.

A press note received from the Indian association in Aden said in 1969 the Aden government cancelled the immigration status of the Indian settlers and asked them to reapply for residence permits. But although all the Indians applied for ordinary residence permits none was granted.

Today hardly 160 Indians, who are actual work-permit holders, are left in Aden.

Some of the trade and commercial establishments left behind by the Indians have been nationalised while properties were taken over by the authorities.

Picture taken in the reception shows Madame K. R. Narayanam, M Semih Gunver, Madame Huges, wife of Canadian Ambassador, M Kljun, wife of Ethiopian Ambassador.

UNITED KINGDOM

India Melody Queen delights millions

India's melody queen, Lata Mangeshkar, drew large crowds vith her performances in London luring her tour there.

Lata, who appeared abroad or the first time in her almost hree-decade-long career as a layback singer on the Indian creen, was in London to collect unds for the Nehru Memorial Project in Britain. The concerts vere organised by the India League.

In all, Lata gave three conerts. On the first day March 11 at the Royal Albert Hall, here was a crowd of 6,000. The econd concert was on March 12 nd the last on March 14 night. The tickets were already sold out or all shows.

No artiste—Indian or western—has given three consecutive performances at the Royal Albert Hall for a long time. So this is record.

Lata has another record to her redit—she has figured in the uinness Book of Records for aving recorded 20,000 songs uring her singing career. Only ne person, male playback singer ohammed Rafi, has bettered is record in India—he achieved s 20,000 a few months before ata.

The highest paid female singer the world, Lata has been in ns for almost as long as the ent films era came to an end d the talkies began. She comes m a distinguished family of gers. Her late father, Dinanath ngeshkar, made a great name himself. Her brother Hridayh Mangeshkar is also doing ll as a music director. Her ee sisters Asha Bhonsle (nee ngeshkar) Usha and Meena also good singers. Lata can g in all Indian languages.

ata has been ruling the singworld in India for a very long time, and many lesser singers have come and gone. Two years ago, Lata requested the Filmfare magazine, which gives annual awards for film artistes, to stop giving her the award: she has received it much too often, depriving younger singers from coming into the field.

Lata has a voice which is not only very melodious, but very emotional.

(Courtesy India Weekly)

An album of colour photographs taken by Mr A. K. Roy, an Indian photographer in London, during Miss Lata Mangeshkar's visit to London for the Nehru Memorial Project concerts at the Royal Albert Hall. Picture shows High Commissioner B. K. Nehru, and Lata looking at the album. The album was presented to Lata by the High Commissioner.

Indian Overseas Congress

The first general body meeting of the Indian Overseas Congress took place at Derby under the president-ship of Mr G. S. Walia. The participants elected the following Executive Committee for two years.

Mr Ajmer Singh Khakh (President), Mr Gurjit Singh Walia (Senior Vice-President) Mr Swayam Prakash Joshi (General-secretary), Mr Mohan Singh Dhanoya (Assistant-secretary), Mr Tarlochan Singh (Social-Cultural-Welfare secretary), Mr Tarsem Singh Arak (Social-Cultural-Welfare Assistant secretary) Mr K. C. Rattu (Treasurer), Mr Tarsem Singh Cheema (Sports-secretary and Assistant Treasurer), Mr Santokh Singh (Propaganda-secretary), Mr Kushi Ram Shukla (Adviser), Mr Dyal Singh (Adviser).

Other Executive members are, Mr Charan Singh-Cheema, Mr Gurdial Singh Sangha, Mr Chanan Singh, Mr Bakshish Singh.

—Nav Doot.

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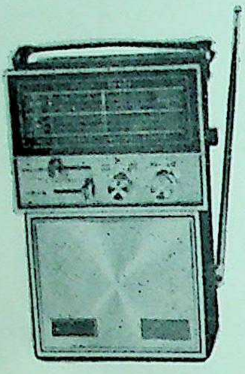

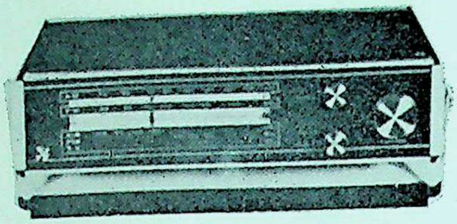

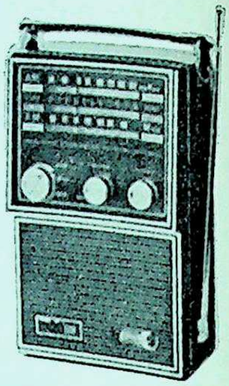

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SPAIN

Torremolinos

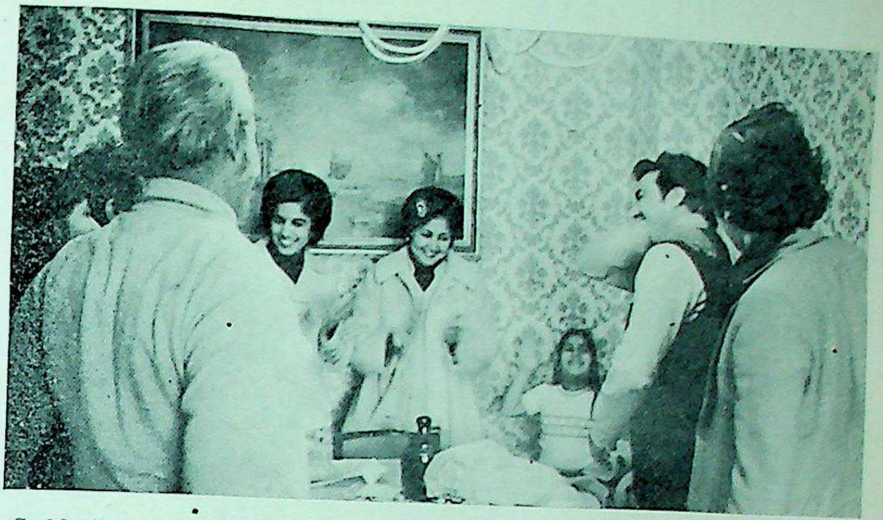
Indian Community in Tenerife (Canary Islands) has good reason to be happy and proud because they have just inaugurated first India Club in Tenerife. The man responsible for organising and giving shape to the idea is Mr Arjandas D. Sadhwani, who has also been elected first President of the Club.

One of the function which was organised at the club recently was a welcome party given in the Honour of Mr K. K. Motwani of Hongkong. The party was well attended by the Indian Businessmen of Tenerife and at the end of function Mr K. K. Motwani was presented with a gift by president, Mr Sadhwani. All participants enjoyed the party which also included musical programme.

During his stay in Puerto de la Cruz, Spain Mr K. K. Motwani was guest of Padmani and Balu Moorjani.

een above are Mr Balu Moorjani d his lovely daughter Koshi.

Know Him?



Suddenly it came to our knowledge that it is our best friend Kishin Pamani's birth-day. To make the day gay and happy, we gathered few of his relatives and friends in a hurry and made him cut a cake; of course without cream as it fell on holiday. Photo shows Kavita-Gul, Sangeeta-Nari and little Shalu —Gul P. Uttam.

Caught in action is Sangeeta having a bite of her birth-day cake from her husband Nari Daswani, looking on are Kavita (Le Souvenir) and Duru (Emsons)—Gul P. Uttam.

It was Shalu's birth-day and along with her are parents Dad Mohan and Mum Bharti of Shardee Traders Malaga.—Gul P. Uttam.

TRIPOLI / LIBYA

A solemn flag salutation ceremony took place on the morning of 26th January at the Chancery premises before a gathering of Indians when our Ambassador Mr Homi J. H. Taleyarkhan, unfurled national flag and national songs "Bandematram" and "Zenda Uncha Hamara" were sung winding up with National Anthem. Our Ambassador spoke on the inspiring significance of the flag.

An impressive Reception was held by our Ambassador and Mrs Taleyarkhan on the evening of 26th January to mark the 25th Anniversary of our Republic. It was fully attended by Diplomatic Corps, including all Arab and African countries, and representatives of Government, including Ministers, officials of the Foreign Office and other distinguished officials and non-officials. Indian music and Indian dishes were served on the occasion.

A colourful function was organised on the eve of Republic Day on the Chancery Terrace by the Indian community when an attractive cultural programme was presented by members of the community. It comprised of Indian dances and music, both vocal and instrumental. It was attended by over three hundred persons and lasted for more than three hours. Ambassador read out the inspiring message of Dr V. V. Giri, our beloved President, on the occasion, followed by his review of the nation's accomplishments since the advent of the Republic.

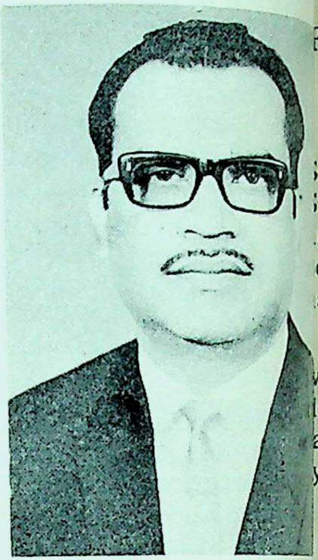
—O. P. Aggarwal

Madame Taleyarkhan with Madame Obidi acting Foreign Minister and Labour Minister.

Republic Day

General view of reception

DUBAI



Mr Nanik Asnani (of Messrs conies, Bombay) visited from Bombay on a short trip his friend Vasu Shroff family members.

YUGOSLAVI

Indian Art Exhibiti

An exhibition of India temporary art was inaugur Titograd, capital of the tenegro Republic in Yug before a distinguished of over 200 invited guests ing the Deputy Prime M Dr Shukovic, and the Mi Culture, Dr Roganovi Director of the Republic stitute for Cultural R inaugurating the ex spoke highly of Indian modern painters.

Mr Keshav Malik, th art critic accompanying hibition, described the modern painting.

Ambassador Menon, the Republican Go spoke of the close b friendship and coopera tween the two countri was the first Indian ex Montenegro and has great interest of the pu

KENYA

Former Air Chief appointed envoy to Kenya

Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, former India's Chief of Air Staff, has been appointed India's mbassador to Kenya. He suceeds Mr Kallajil Chandrasekaran Hair.

Air Marshal Arjan Singh, who vas till recently India's ambassalor to Switzerland, is expected to ake up his new assignment shorty.

—**Kul Bhushan**

SRI LANKA

Lanka Indians worst hit by food crisis

The deteriorating food situaon in Sri Lanka is causing eep-concern to the government.

The situation has been agravated by foreign exchange ifficulties, and the Prime Minisr, Mrs Bandaranaike, has sent issions to various friendly counies, including India, the Soviet nion, China, Pakistan and Ausalia, appealing for urgent food pplies on a deferred payment sis.

There have been reports in e local press of suicides and aths from starvation. The l country plantation workers, st of whom are of Indian gin, are the worst affected.

According to spokesmen of the ylon Workers' Congress, a ding union representing labour India origin, the plantation rkers are undergoing untold ery owing to scarcity of food, ng prices and loss of wages bese of reduced working days. ere are even instances of ilies selling their children and old taking to begging.

From Kenya with Love

No, its not 'Dr No' but secret agent 007 James Bond alias Sean Connery who teamed up recently with scoop agent, Kul Bhushan in Nairobi to track down 'Mr Goldfinger'. Bond was unarmed because, he said, "You only live twice." But Bhushan was armed with his pen to add that sparkle to the story to remind you that "Diamonds are forever".

Picture by Natwar Chudasama

Tea Output Down

Until November, estate workers and the rest of the population received a measure of rice free of cost and an additional measure per person at one rupee each week on cards, while flour was freely available.

Since then rice ration has been cut to half a measure.

The supply of ration to residents in non-producing areas was increased to one-and-a-half measures from the middle of this month, with flour supplies being totally suspended. Estate workers, however, get only one measure. Apart from this, they are denied of bread too as bakeries are situated in towns far from the hill country.

The food crisis in the estates has affected tea production. Up to the end of February it was down by ten milion pounds from the corresponding period's output last year.

The government recognises the gravity of the situation in the tea estates, for at stake is the country's economy. But it seems to be helpless because its financial difficulties prevent it from buying food at the prevailing exhorbitant prices in world markets.

KUWAIT

Indo-Kuwait air arrangement

India and Kuwait signed an agreement for the operations of Air India and Kuwait Airways to and through Kuwait and India respectively.

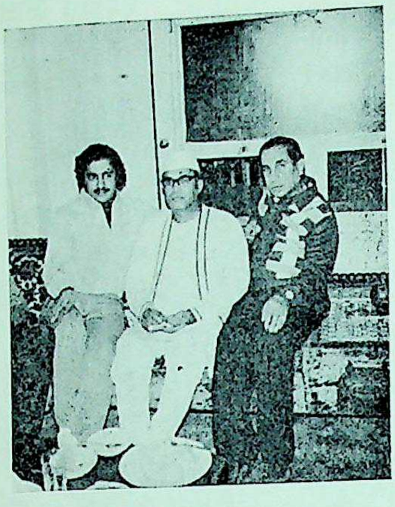
Air India will run 5 services a week to and through Kuwait and Kuwait Airways will operate through Bombay and Delhi in India. Air India is also entitled to operate with Boeing 747 aircraft.

UNITED STATES

Sindhi Cultural Association

Sindhi Cultural Association of New York organized Kirtan and Guru Bani session at Jamaica Gurduwara recently. Shri Ishwar J. Balani president of Holy Mission of Guru-Nanak in Calcutta, who arrived here a few days ago and has been staying there, enlighted the occasion by singing Guru Banis. Every Sunday morning he and his group has been entertaining the Indian community by reciting the celestial melodies of Guru Nanak sahib and spreading the fragrance through the wise and spiritual Guru Banis. Shri Balani is here to help Gur Mandar, Nari Shala and Guru Nanak Mission in Calcutta. He will be visiting South American cities after a short stay here.

The Indian community in the United States consisting of several Indian associations celebrated Republic Day on Saturday January 26, 1974 with diversified cultural programmes and music of all the parts of India.



Shri Ishwar J. Balani (Center) seen with Mr Louis Lekhwani and Mr Ramesh Advani of New York.

Here in New York the 24th anniversary of our Republic was celebrated at India House, 3 East 64th Street. N.Y.C. under the joint auspices of the Consulate General of India and the permanent mission to U.N. in New York. Mr A. K. Ray Consul General of India on explaining the new horizons in India said "India and every Indian shall always find ways and means to overcome problems."

The joint committee fo
dian organizations held th
bration at the McMillan T
of the Columbia Universit
folk and the classical danc
sitar recital by Dewan M
assisted by Apusen Gupta
tabla and the Bharata N
dances by the students of
known Padmini hilighted
occasion.

—Louis Le

BRUSSEL

Indian Sculptures t
Belgian Museum

At a well-attended func
Brussels on February 11,
bassador K. B. Lall prese
the Belgian Minister of
three stone sculptures for t
dian Section of the
Museum of Art and H
The sculptures, all fro
Pala—Sena dynasty (9
centuries), were promised
museum some time back
preciation of Belgium's pa
tin in the Gandhi Cente
1969.

Indo-Belgian Agreeme
Avoidance of Dou
Taxation

The Governments of In
Belgium signed in Bru
February 7, an agreem
avoidance of double taxa

The agreement prov
avoiding double taxatio
comes derived from di
interest, royalties, etc.,
residents of one state fr
other. Under the agreem
Government of Belgiu
allow credit to its taxpa
taxes chargeable in
whether actually cha
spared, on income deri
dividends, interest and
from India by Belgian
or enterprises.

These provisions w
reciprocally to Indian
deriving such incom
Belgium.

Gurbani in New York

Shri Ishwar J. Balani and group seen at the recent dinner party given by Mr and Mrs Ramesh Advani.

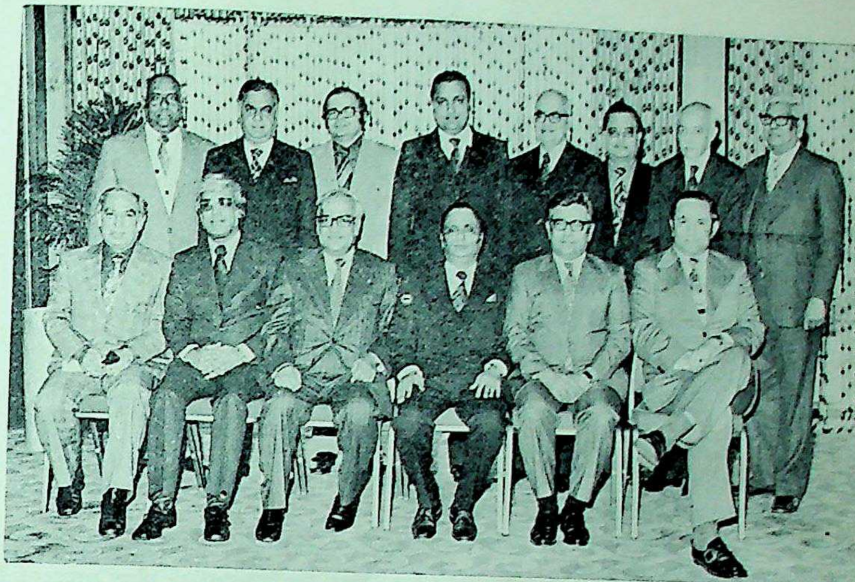
HONG KONG

New Born

Ir and Mrs Prakash Dialdas were lessed with a baby girl recently. een above are the couple cuddling heir new born.

proud grand parents Mr & Mrs Dialdas show-off their new d-daughter, holding her with y care and tenderness.

Indian Chamber-AGM.



The Indian Chamber of Commerce held its 22nd Annual General Meeting at the Jade Ball Room, Furama Hotel on March 27, 1974 when new office bearers and members of the General Committee were elected.

Photo shows from left to right: (seated) Mr H. N. Harilela, J.P., Chairman of the Council of Hong Kong India Association, Mr Bob N. Harilela, Vice-Chairman, Mr M. P. Ladharam, Chairman, Mr K. B. Rathi, Vice-Chairman, Mr K. Sital, Immediate Past-Chairman and Mr R. K. Sood, Hon. Treasurer. Seen standing are from left to right: Mr Hotchand J. Harjani, Mr T. D. Bharwaney, Mr Pishu W. Uttamchandani, Mr Nihal J. Chulani, Mr J. Mulchand, Mr Hiro K. Panjabi, Mr H. T. Barma, J.P. and Mr S. A. Ram, Secretary of the Chamber.

Jardine Airways Now GSA for Air India

On the occasion of the recent appointment of Jardine Airways as General Passenger Sales Agents for Air India in Hong Kong, the airline's Area Sales Manager, Lincoln Linn, hosted a dinner party at the Miramar.

Reservations and ticketing will, however, continue to be handled by the Air India office in the Hilton.

Photographed at the Air India/Jardine Airways get-together are l-r Mrs & Mr John Clayton, Jardine Airways Marketing Manager, Mr P. R. Chugani, Air India's Assistant Manager and Mr Ravi Misra, the airline's Manager.

Fun Fair

An afternoon of fun and enjoyment to coincide with Holi season, was put up by the Friday Women's Club at the Hindu Temple, Happy Valley. Obviously a very successful bazaar—it drew large crowds, thus giving credit to the tremendous work put in by the charming ladies. Besides being well organized and having a lot of exciting games for the young and old alike, there was a wide range of delicious food from different regions of India prepared by the Women. A play presented by the younger children ended up the gala function, hence displaying the hidden talents of our teenagers.

New Born

Asha & Chandroo Jotwani of Messrs. Jotwani (H.K.) Inc., and Messrs. Mayaling Impex Ltd., Hong Kong has been blessed with a baby girl, sister to master Kiran Kumar, on 22nd March 1974.

"A battle for ass lost"

ALLAHABAD — An independent candidate, who wanted to run for the vidhan sabha on the symbol of "ass" but was asked to enter the fray with a "horse and rider", today lost a court battle to stall the election on this count.

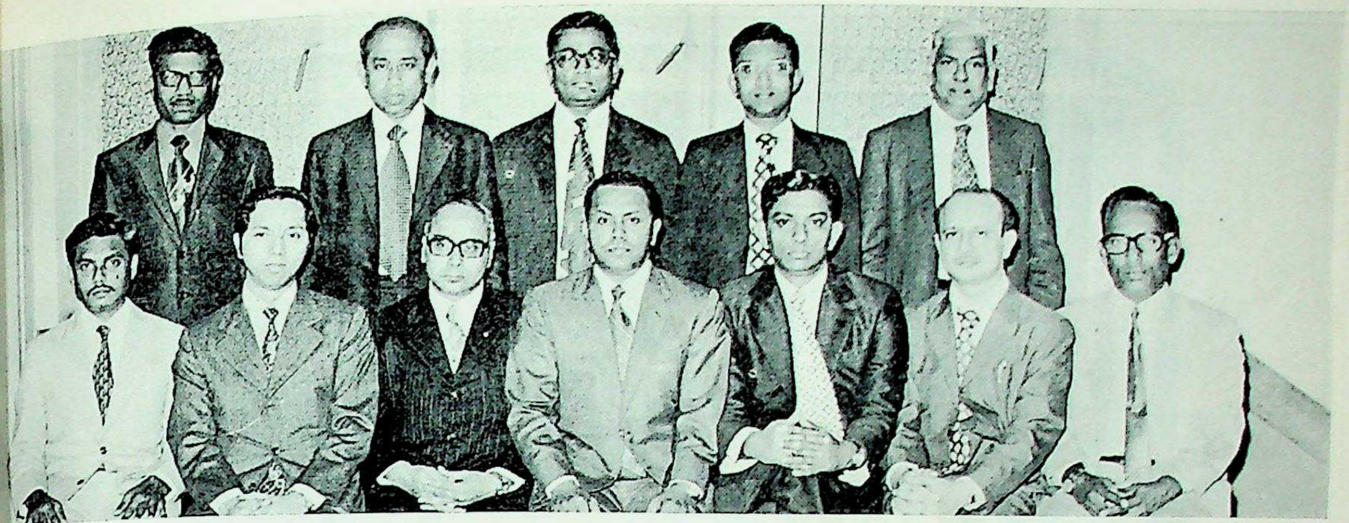
Dismissing a writ petition filed by Mr Tara Shanker Singh, an employee of Banaras Hindu University, the Allahabad High Court ruled that he could only choose a symbol specified in the gazette. Since "ass" was not a specified symbol, the returning officer was not wrong in giving him the other symbol.

Mr Singh, who is seeking election from the Varanasi Cantonment asembly constituency, submitted that he chose "ass" as his symbol in view of the present circumstances and social conditions.

Very observant, aren't they? A huge crowd snapped at the fun-filled watching the interesting play presented by the young children.

Seen enjoying themselves tremendously is the crowd present at the bazaar.

Games were popular with children.



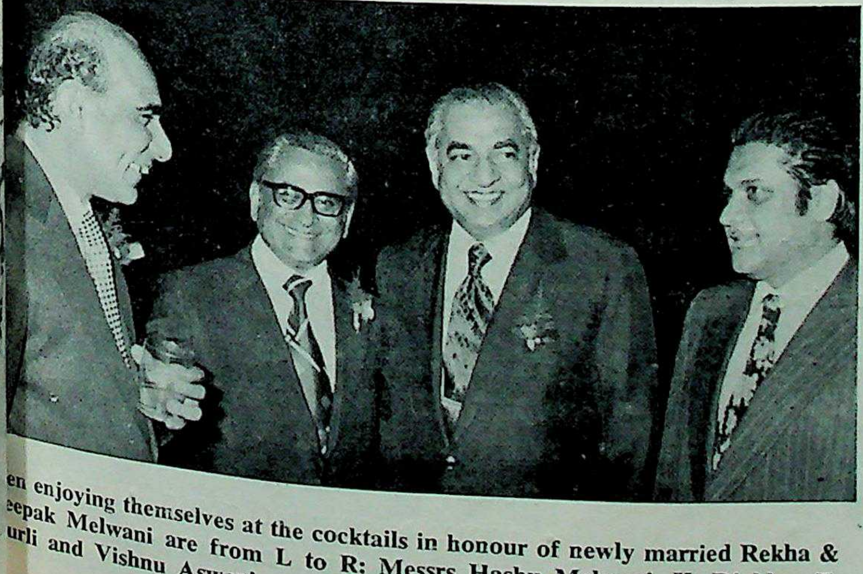
The Tamil Cultural Association held its Annual General Meeting recently and elected its New Office Bearers for 1974.

Photo shows (seated) from left: Mr. P. A. S. Noorul Ameen, Treasurer, Mr. A. M. A. Sukhur, 2nd Vice-President, Mr. K. R. Visvanathan, Immediate Past President, Mr. S. A. Ameen, President, Mr. A. R. Rajgopalan 1st Vice-President, Mr. K. S. M. Yehya, Hon. Secretary and Mr. S. J. Meiyappan, Assistant Secretary.

Standing (from left) Members of the Executive Committee: Mr. Muthu Valliappan, Mr. H. Abdul Kareem, Dr. Hussain Ally, Mr. A. S. Jamal and Mr. S. A. Ram.

ohammad Yusuf, famous play back singer from yderabad Sind, was recently in the colony and gave any programmes. Above at one of his recitals, he seen second from Left with Mr. K. K. Motwani xtreme left) Mr. Vashi Mahtani and Mr. T. G. Raj.

Seen at Mohammad Yusuf's recital from L to R are Mrs. Vindri Raj. Mrs. Moorjani, Mrs. Aswani, Mrs. Wani and Mrs. Mhmd Yusuf.



en enjoying themselves at the cocktails in honour of newly married Rekha & eepak Melwani are from L to R: Messrs Hashu Melwani, K. Dialdas, T. urli and Vishnu Aswani.

WARSAW

Shankar's Painting Competition

A prize-distribution ceremony for Shankar's International Children's Painting Competition, 1972 was held on February 12, at the Palace of Youth, Warsaw. Among the 23 Polish award-winners was the recipient of the Nehru Gold Medal.

The ceremony was attended by the parents of the award-winning children and the representatives of Polish youth organizations, the Indo-Polish Friendship Society and the Ministry of Education.

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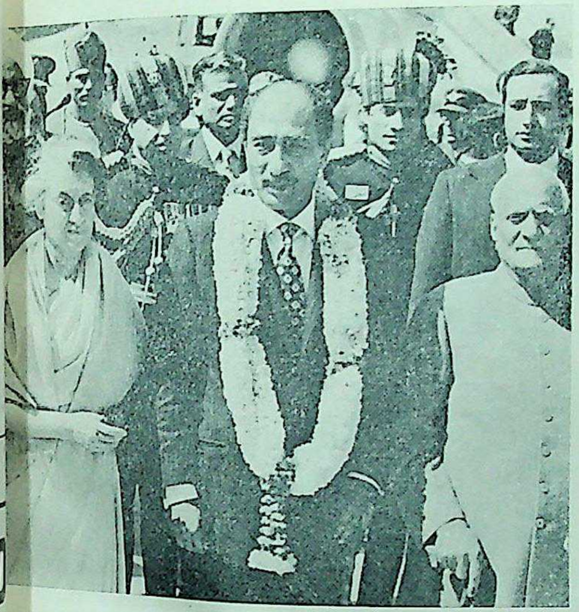
Gleanings from Indian press

President Sadat in New Delhi

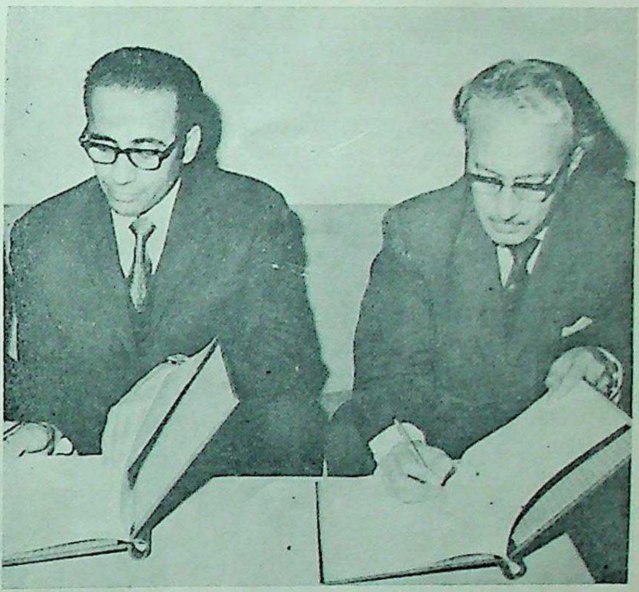


s Excellency Mr Anwar El-Sadat, President of the rab Republic of Egypt.

ı arrrival at the Delhi airport Mr Sadat was given warm welcome by the President, Shri V. V. Giri, Prime Minister, Srimati Indira Gandhi, Central nisters, Diplomats and others.

Mr Ahmed Khalifa A-Suwaidy, Foreign Minister e United Arab Amirates, was in India recently and en with President Giri.

Indo-Kuwait Air Agreement



India and Kuwait signed an arrangement with regard to the operations of Air India and Kuwait Airways to and through Kuwait and India respectively. Picture shows signing ceremony.

H.E. Mr Mohd. Naim, Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Afghanistan, called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Bombay Beat

Priyalata Pa

The Sixth National Book Fair

In pursuance of its objective of fostering book mindedness in the country, the National Book Trust organised the Sixth National Book Fair at the Cross Maiden, Bombay, from Jan. 31 to Feb. 11. The fair was inaugurated by the governor of Maharashtra, Ali Yavar Jung.

A major feature of the fair was an exciting spectacle of some 6000 books published in all Indian languages and English. Sections of the display was devoted to books for children and paperbacks.

A view of the stall at the Sixth National Book Fair.

First International Textile Show

The governor, Mr Ali Yavar Jung inaugurated the country's first International Textile exhibition at the Cuffe Parade grounds, which had on display in gaily decorated stalls, a wide variety and range of textiles, dye-stuffs, chemicals and machines.

A number of textile mills participated in this exhibition and some of them even sold their textiles at a discount price. In the fabric section were a gala exposition of new exotic sarees and wild dress materials, fibre-glass fabrics, jute-polythene blends, crepe cotton cloth, filament polyester sarees, and also the Agni-Avarodhak, the fire retardent saree marketed for the first time in India. Also displayed were multi-purpose powerlooms, cropping and shearing machines and knitting machines.

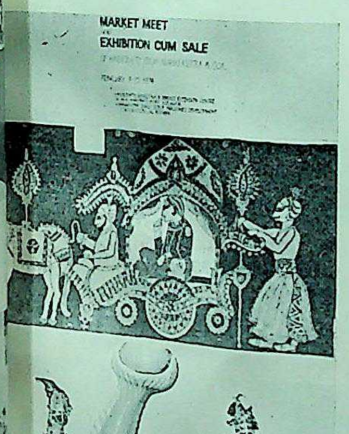
A display of a fabric stall at the "First International Textile Show
Cuffe Parade Bombay.

Huge crowds flocked to see the ibition everyday, and among m were also experts in the field textiles and machinery, business smen, exporters, foreigners l textile technologists.

xhibition of Handicrafts

The Maharashtra Small Scale ustries Development Corporai organised a seven day exition-cum-scale of handicrafts Maharashtra and Goa, at the omaraswamy Hall, Bombay ch was inaugurated by the yor, Mr Sudhir Joshi.

The exhibition had on display ariety of articles ranging from broidered silks, wooden carved , silver and brass wares, ellery, ceramic tiles, clay dels, sisal fibre articles and nroo textiles. Many artisans n different parts of the state also opened their counters at exhibition and effected sales ctly.



licrafts exhibition of "Maha- ra and Goa" on display at naraswamy Hall.

Strike at Bombay High

e most significant event that ised the spirits of every t is the oil strike at Bombay It seems that the dous efforts of ONGC cians and engineers are to arded. They have drilled nto the sea to explore oil, the much needed and precious commodity in the context of the present times where its prices have shot up. The ship "Sagar Samrat" used for exploration is standing in all its majesty to see the future of this gigantic effort.

Expo—Handicraft 1974

The Handicraft and Handlooms Exports Chamber, Bombay organised an exhibition "Expo—Handicraft 1974" at Hotel Oberoi Sheraton from 23rd to 28th February 1974.

About 28 manufacturers participated in this exhibition of exquisite and rare handicrafts and handlooms bringing out the beauty of Indian handicrafts, which has been the proud cultural heritage of India since ages, and having won wide acclaim for its craftsmenship and excellence in design. Some of the items displayed in gaily decorated and attractive stalls were art metalware including sculptures and carvings of brass, ivory, copper, bronze and silver, extraordinary wood carvings in sandalwood, rich and gaily woven carpets and numdahs, with modern and oriental designs, colourful costume jewellery from Kashmir, Rajasthan and coastal districts, lacquerware and dolls and toys in endless variety.

Also displayed were Handlooms with rare and beautiful designs, stitched in various styles and patterns which were a great attraction among fashion conscious women.

The Indian Handicrafts which have a great export potential, had reached the target of 90 crores during 1971-72.

Prince of Spain visits Bombay

A ceremonial send off was given to His Royal Highness Prince Don Juan Carlos, who accompanied by Princess Dona Sofia of Spain left for Madras after visiting Bombay, during the course of his five-day tour of India.

Their Royal Highnessess Prince Don Juan Carlos and Princess Dona Sofia of Spain on a five-day State visit to India went to see Moghul Gardens at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. Photo shows Princess Sofia at the Moghul Gardens.

The Royal couple visited the famous Elephanta Caves, Gateway of India, and gave a glittering reception at Oberoi-Sheraton, followed by a dinner hosted by the Governor of Maharashtra, Mr Ali Yavar Jung in their honour at Raj Bhavan.

The people of Metropolitan city were charmed by the Prince and Princess who mixed freely with them.

"We hope to come back again to see more of your beautiful country which has taken our hearts" was the parting message the distinguished visitors gave to the people of India.

Mr T. K. Jhuremalani, Press Information Office Bombay, shaking hands with Princess Dona Sofia of Spain during their visit to Bombay.

New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhand

U. P. Election

The Congress is all cock-a-hoop over its victories in the U.P. and Orissa elections. An electorate that is hopping mad at soaring prices, shortages and the resultant economic distress has again given its mandate to the party which has been the target of a fusillade of criticism because of the sorry mess it has created. How does one explain this phenomenon?

One possible surmise could be that in a country where the vast majority of the electorate is illiterate it is very difficult to dislodge the party which enjoys the advantages of power, influence and government machinery. To this must be added the still massive pull and prestige of Mrs Indira Gandhi in spite of the considerable erosion in her image. Again, the people have become so used to the Congress that it seems to be the only party identified in their mind as the political organisation which can form a government, thanks to the disarray and frustrated gimmicks of the opposition parties.

Will the new triumph galvanize the Congress into meeting the economic challenges facing the country with grit, determination and integrity? Or will the party become still more complacent, smug, flabby and, therefore, more corrupt? There are many in the country who wanted the Congress to get a kick in the arse in U.P., not because they are necessarily anti-Congress but because they feel that a chastening experience would have been good for the party.

Anyhow, now that it has won, it is imperative that the Congress should shed the patina of age,

They came to vote. The Indian voter is very much conscious of hi rights.

They too came in their veils and all. Turn out was hug

tle less and get down to brass s in tackling its responsibili- The country is not con- ed about the future of the an National Congress. The on is bigger than the party. at is at stake is not only the -being of the nation but the survival of the parliamentary em. Let the meaning of arat be grasped.

* * *

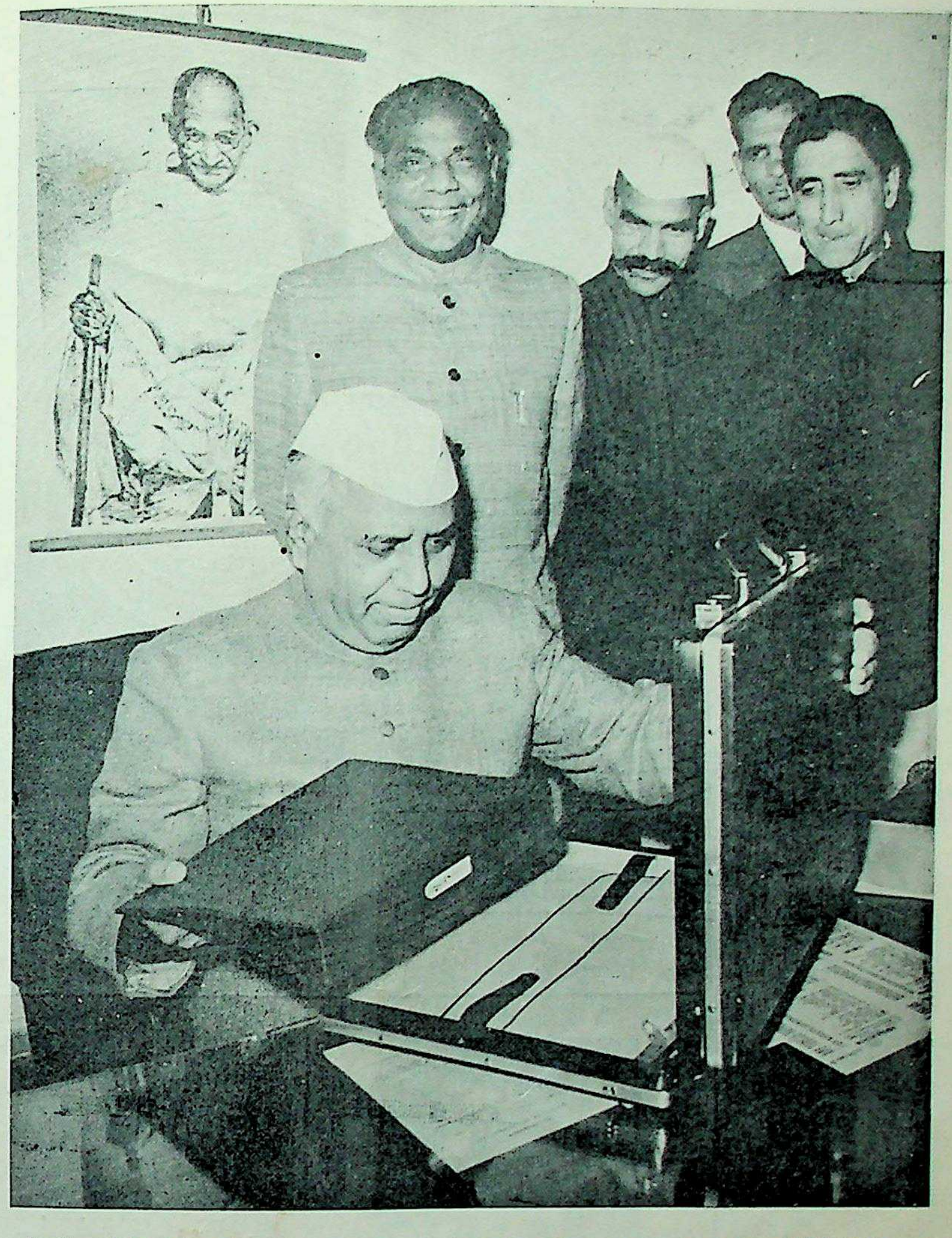
he Indian budget for 1974- presented by the Finance ister, Mr Y. B. Chavan, is flawless but still a passable in a difficult situation. It is l that the Indian government realised that heavy income tion discourages investment, t from causing evasion by ing evasion profitable. Mr van has reduced the incidence come tax all along the line.

he increase in taxes on luxury s like cigarettes, liquor, cos- cs, superior fabrics, T.V. cars and plastics is un- ptionable but it would have better if a strenuous effort been made to avoid the hike ilway fares and postal, tele- and telephone rates. All have hit the common man .

t Mr Chavan will make the ay a good deal more by way alth tax. The rate for the bove Rs 5 lakhs goes up two to three per cent and e slab Rs 10 lakhs to Rs 15 from three to four per

ustry gets a major conces- The development rebate, be withdrawn from May ar, is being extended by a or the benefit of those who firm orders for equipment ere unable to obtain de- because of international estic difficulties.

biggest flaw in the budget course the uncovered gap 125 crores. The gap will lly have to be covered by that is not there—by notes or deficit financing. bad economics, which is to release more inflation- ssures.



Indian Minister for Finance, presented the General Budget for 1974-75 to the Parliament in New Delhi on February 28, 1974.

The Vice-President Mr G. S. Pathak recently pr “G Jayanti” celebrations in Delhi.

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THE INDIAN provides a forum to Overseas Indians all over the world to express and exchange their views on:

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- *Culture, education and religion*
- *Law and Government policies*
- *Politics and current affairs*
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Overseas Indians and their organisations, clubs and associations are invited to send articles, news reports on activities, stories and photographs to the Editor for publication. Letters to the Editor are also welcome. Latest publications for book reviews are accepted.

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published by:
THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG

printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

Subscription list of THE INDIAN includes businessmen, professionals, political leaders, governmental agencies, trade associations and libraries in all countries. Direct subscribers should send crossed cheques payable to THE INDIAN.

THE INDIAN can also be obtained from the followings: **BAHRAIN:** Mr. Ishwar M. Anandani, M/s. Rajnit Agencies, Zayani Bldg, 2nd Fl. A—Khalifa Road, P. O. Box 382, Bahrain, **CANARY IS.:** Ramchand L. Karani, Bros, Sagasta-55, Las Palmas. **FIJI:** Suva Book Shop, 97 Marks Street, Suva. **HONG KONG:** Himalayan Restaurant, 57 Wyndham Street, Hong Kong. Moonlight Restaurant, 36 Mody Road, Kowloon. **JAPAN:** Style Pearl Exporters, Port P. O. Box 2016, Kobe. Nairs Restaurant, Showadori Crossing of Miharabashi, Tokyo. **LIBERIA:** Mr. Gul H. Mirchandani, M/s. Hirasons (Agencies) Inc., P. O. Box 1348, Monrovia. **MALAYSIA:** A. Narayanan, Harcroft Estate, Ayer Tawar, Perak. **MAURITIUS:** Nalanda Company Ltd., 30 Bourbon Street, Port Louis. **NIGERIA:** M/s. K. L. M. Fashion (Nig) Ltd., P. O. Box 3355, Lagos. **PHILIPPINES:** Hollywood Enterprises, 314 Garcia Bldg., 636 Rizal Avenue, Manila. **SINGAPORE:** G. S. Muthukrishnan, 97 Taman Permata, Singapore-20. **USA:** Azad International, Inc. 37W. 26th Street, (Offff Broadway) New York, N.Y. 10001. **KENYA:** M/s. Woolworths Ltd., P.O. Box 30184, Nairobi, Kenya. **KOREA:** G. D. Vashi, 616 Chongno Hotel, 9, 2nd St., Chong-No, Seoul.

Trade enquiries for distribution and advertisements are welcome. Attractive discounts are available for bulk orders.

Yearly Subscription Rate:
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Samaiki

WOES OF A SANTA

To an Overseas Indian a short trip to India—be it a family reunion or pilgrimage, is a thrilling and exciting ocassion.

Some visitors look forward to meet relatives and old acquintances, others want to visit places like Hardwar, Agra, Banaras and Kashmir. Ladies buy saris and jewellery in the mornings and movies fill the afternoons.

Friends and close relatives usually look forward to receive small gifts and novelties from the overseas visitor. It is considered impolite if the visitor is not able to produce something for everyone, however small the gift may be. No one attaches monetary value to gifts but sentiments are involved. The visiting Indian is looked upon as Santa Claus who must bring gifts for children souvenirs for others, tape recorders for near ones and french chiffon saris for dear ones. One of such visitors had an interesting story to tell.

Stripped of all the goodies which he brought to Bombay and distributed around, he reached Poona almost empty handed. As he made rounds of courtesy calls, he met his old friend and business associate. The friend looked shocked in disbelief when he was told that there was no gift for him this time. After all with Rs 500 free allowance what can one bring. The visitor felt his friend's hungry eyes falling on his Omega wrist watch. Promptly his right hand went into his inside breast pocket of the jacket, pulled out a Parker fountain pen and handed it over to the friend.

Usually the stay comes to an end when the visitor hasn't got anything left to part with. If it is prolonged, then the shirts, handkerchiefs and who knows what! Better luck next time.

Our near and dear ones, although we like to bring plane load of souvenirs for you, we are not allowed to do so. The customs do not distinguish between a potential smuggler and a long lost son who dutifully comes to India to pay homage to the source of his religion, art and culture.

How nice it would be if instead of long nosed inquisitive men and women at the customs counters at airports, you and I are welcomed with a warm 'Namaste', even a marigold garland, by a pretty little thing and the Santa Claus is allowed to go across the barrier with all his fat bags. Only if wishes were horses ...... !!!

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

Plight of Overseas Indians

Indians from Uganda & Kenya who hold British Passports are in the news once again. A group of about 44 such persons are camping at Bombay Airport for last three months. They came to India from Uganda on 6 months residence permits. On expiry of residence permits in India, they flew to the U.K. on Alitalia At London Airport, they were denied entry for not holding valid entry documents and the airliner was asked by the British Authorities to fly them back to Bombay. Al Italia had no return flight and this airliner persuaded Air India to carry the group back on the former's expense. The Indian authorities at Bombay refused to accept the group as they were not Indian nationals. They were allowed to stay in the transit lounge of the Airport and the British Consulate was contacted, who refused to do anything in the matter and advised the group to apply for entry permits and to wait in the queue for their turn. Thereupon, Air India asked Al Italia to take over; the latter refused. Air India supplied food, etc. to the group and at the same time went to court against Al Italia. Both Airliners were represented by eminent lawyers. The court decided that passengers were the responsibility of Al Italia. Two weeks had pased. The latter ook over and started feeding the group. Gradually, both the quantity and quality of food deteriorated and members of the group complained in local press. Meanwhile, transit lounge was vacated and the group was shifted to a nearby barrack to ive under police guards. The group s still lodged there. Local Rotary Club has supplied sheets, pillows and ndoor games. Some other charitable organisations are doling out rations. No one knows the fate of the group.

Another group, though smaller in umber, is camping at Delhi Airport or several weeks now. Still another roup is stranded at Colombo airport.

The latest incident took place at Delhi Airport. A total of 107 Indians holding British Passports and temporarily staying in India trickled out of the country one by one and assembled at Bangkok. There, they boarded a Pan-Am plane bound for London. On being refused entry, they were brought back to Delhi. When the plane landed at Delhi, all 107 persons refused to disembark and insisted that they be flown to London again. They shouted slogans and made noise. On request of the Airline, the Indian authorities tried to persuade passengers to come out of the plane. Negotiations continued for over 12 hours, but the group remained adamant. Finally, police was called in. Men and women police cordoned the plane; tear gas squad stood by. The Police officers entered the plane and dragged out protesting passengers by bodily lifting them one by one. The plane left Delhi after a delay of 20 hours; the group is at the transit lounge of the airport. It is alleged that pasengers were beaten up by Pan Am crew.

The series of such episodes call for a re-examination of the whole issue. It is quite clear that most of the African Indians want to go to Britain. Since they hold British Passports, it is both legal and moral obligation of the British Government to take them back. The fact that these British subjects want to jump queue of entry-permit seekers betrays the insecurity felt by these citizens as well as their fear lengthy procedures and delays in getting entry permits. If these inhuman incidents are to be avoided, then the British Government should give due assurance to these people and simplify its procedures. On their part, the 'brown sahebs' should exercise patience and avoid gate-crashing tactics to enter Britain. At the same time, the Indian Government should take steps to discipline unscrupulous travel agencies who go to any length to misguide passengers for the sake of making a few chips.

Why Downhill March

An Indian journalist of international reputation, Mr Chanchal Sarkar, recently wrote an article on Overseas Indians, more particularly about Indians in Malaysia and Singapore. The author first concludes that the Overseas Indians everywhere are on the way out from their respective countries of residence and then goes on to identify reasons for this happening. He states that Indians residing abroad take little interest in long term investments, do not take to industry, participate little in developmental effort, neither identify nor integrate with local communities and generally follow a policy of "rich tonight move tomorrow." Further, he observes that Indian missions abroad do little to provide intelligent leadership, are generally lazy, apathetic and lacking in will to do anything and that they operate on such meagre budgets that country's image is spoilt. Much of what Chanchal Sarkar says is superficial though not wrong.

The plight of Overseas Indians is directly dependent on the economic strength, military power and international standing of India. Image of Indians abroad could be no different from the stereo image of India in the minds of other communities. Japanese were an object of ridicule two decades ago; today they are respected and feared, even South Africa has given them white man's status. Chinese were looked upon as pig tailed and rat eating people; today nations vie with one another in paying court to Peking. If India were strong economically and militarily, no one will talk about and treat Indians as is being done these days. There is a Hindi saying "Garib ki joru sab ki bhabi" which means "A poor man's wife is everyone's mistress." If India had the strength and the will to hit back, would Idi Amin throw out Indians unceremoniously, or would Nixon insult Mrs Gandhi's envoy or would Powells open their mouth so wide? A strong and big man is praised for actions for which a poor man is blamed.

While on the image, we may ask Mr Sarkar who is a top Indian journalist, what he and his co-professionals are doing to promote India's image abroad. India gets reported in western press only negatively. Only hunger, famine, violence, fighting and death in India get reported in the foreign press. Surely there are many

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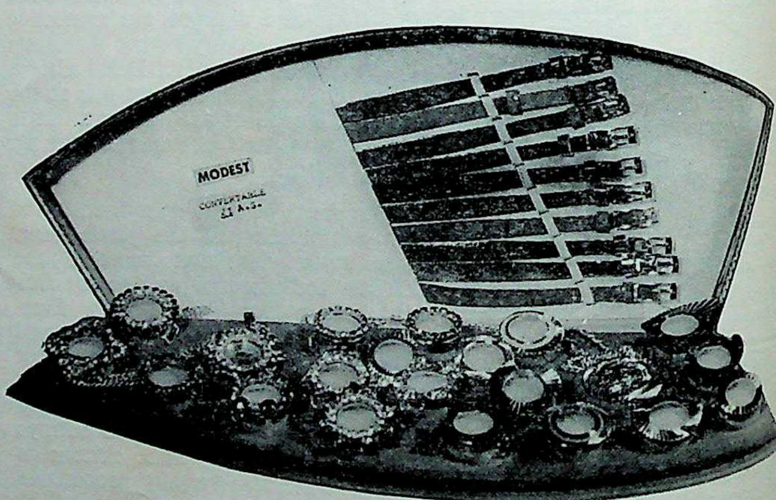

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ther good and grand or not so grand ings happening in India. Gradually nd steadily, the country is changing. Vhat are the influential Indian ournalists doing to put this aspect of ndia across to foreign readers. Press, ews agencies, syndicated column supliers, radio and television are conrolled by westerners. There is not a ingle news agency or feature supplyng group of Asians who see Asia hrough Asian eyes. The only atempt was the 'Asian' from Hongkong hat has been eaten up by big sharks. Can Mr Sarkar establish such an igency or at least refuse to cooperate vith those who have vowed never to print anything pleasant about India.

Let us not give sermons to one another. Let us not use the gift of pen o run down our own people. Let us do little things in our respective little ways to do whatever little we can to promote the image of India and Indians abroad.

Overseas Indians are the major tourists

A visit to any five star hotel in Bombay, Delhi or Calcutta will be sufficient to convince any one that the Overseas Indians visiting India constitute one of the largest, if not the largest group of tourists coming to India every month. They come to visit relatives or friends, on business or to make a pilgrimage to holy places. They stay at top hotels, spend plenty of money on food and sight seeing and do shopping in large quantities. And they go back with happy memories, hoping to come back soon . . . some day.

Americans, Japanese and Germans are generally the major tourists these days. But for India, it is the Overseas Indian who constitutes the bulk.

This little known but very imporant fact needs to be emphasized because the tourist promotion compigns nounted by India has either overooked this fact or has taken the Overeas Indian for granted. A survey eeds to be carried out to find out the requency and periodicity pattern of he Overseas Indian's visits to India, urpose and duration of their visits, mounts of foreign exchange brought n and spent, preferences for hotels, nland travel and other facilities etc. tc. Such a survey should help the ourist authorities in India to make heir services more relevant to visiors.

At the same time, some programmes nay be undertaken without waiting or results of the survey. There is a eed to sponsor charter flights during summer to attract children of Overseas Indians to come for a Bharat Darshan. Indian products for exports should be displayed at major hotels in all cities. Export Promotion Council should depute officers who could contact visiting Overseas Indians in their hotels and update them with Indian export ware. We come across these aggressive activities at many hotels in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Frankfurt, London, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York. The visitor may not buy much on the spot but friends tell me that such contacts have often resulted in trade later on.

The Overseas Indian is India's biggest asset abroad—for good or bad. He goes to India in search of identity, to re-affirm his cultural heritage and that is the right time to approach him for participation in trade. There is plenty of good will. Given due respect for his abilities and tactful handling, this sterling asset can be tapped for satisfactory premium. But he should not be taken for granted.

A WHIFF OF FRAGRANCE

The prices of imported perfumes are prohibitive in India. That is why almost every one travelling out of India is plagued with requests to bring back French or German or even American perfumes.

But today, synthetic Indian imitations of Revlon's "Intimate", "Channel No. 5", "Worth", "Joy", "Evening in Paris" are available in Indian stores for one-fifth the price. And the increasingly luxury-conscious middle class Indian women are buying them more and more.

India produces perfume essence worth about Rs 10 crores. About Rs 25 lakhs worth of it is exported. It is finding its way very slowly to the American market but like Indian films, it is most popular in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

Though the demand for Indian perfumes in India is increasing it is still largely used industrially in cosmetics, soaps, incense and tobacco.

Indians become conscious of perfumes at religious and marriage ceremonies. Only five per cent of the 2,000 tons produced annually is directly sold as perfume and this too largely in rural areas.

Because good industrial alcohol is not easily available in India, perfume essense is diluted in sandalwood. In western countries it is diluted in alcohol.

The fate of Indian natural perfumes or "attars" is a sad story. According to the "Shastras" attar was made in India since 2000 years and the containers were made of goat skin, leather, wood or pulp.

Since ancient times the main altar center was in Kanauj, 40 miles from Kanpur. Today about 200 artisans, all from traditional families of perfumers, consider it uneconomical to make natural perfumes or attars. They extract perfume from fresh flowers like the rose, jasmine, and kevra; a mixture of extracts from exotic herbs and gums and resins.

The task of collecting flowers and herbs was always laborious but has become unmanageable for perfumers now.

The Kanauj perfumer has to travel to Misenagar and Bharatpur in U. P. to buy khas or vetwerk, during the months of December and March. He has to go up to Aligarh and Hatras in March and April to buy the best roses. Kevra is available for eight months of the year in Orissa. In May and June he has to buy "mogra" and "motia" from Jaunpur and Allahabad. The "mitti ki attar" (an exotic fragrance of earth after the first shower) is made from baking a special kind of earth.

All this requires plenty of time and the prices of the flowers is exorbitant. An additional reason for the Kanauj perfumer to give up his trade is that the distillation processes haven't been modernised and are still very slow. The production has not kept up with the demand.

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Indians in Burma

This article is based on a book "The Indian Minority in Burma" by N. R. Chakravorty, published by The Oxford University Press, London, 1971.

The rise and fall of the Indian mmunity in Burma is the sad story the minority race which lived for veral generations in Burma, worked ird, and made tremendous contributions to the development of Burma ver a period of more than 100 years British administration, only to be ially thrown out of their homes and cation by the avalanche of international crisis.

Burmese civilization is closely linkl to India. Nobody exactiy knows hen the first contract was made beveen India and Burma. However urmese legends indicate from prestoric days, but there is hardly any oubt that Burma had been colonised efore the first century A.D. Settleent of Indians in Burma in the cond century A.D. is proved by inskrit plays names and Brahami ripts discovered in Burma. Among e many common concepts of the dian civilization to be found in urma were the concepts of Faraki in e Government, the acceptance of yalty or kingship, the divine origin id status of kings, administration of uddhist religion, the king as suporter of the religion, acceptance of aditional Hindu Court of Manu as e kind source of law, status of elders the family system, social and regious ceremonies of many kinds such celebration of births, casting of oroscope of new born, domestic tuals of women folks etc. are to be und today in Burma.

Trade relations between India and irma developed from ancient times. irma has acclaimed to be identified the "Swarna Bhumi" the golden untry. At least from first century D. a trade route from India to ina crossed north central Burma wn the Chinwin Valley then upto avali to Dhamun and the border of ina. The second route passed rough Manipur and Assam to onywa in the lower Chinwin Valley central Burma. There was a third ute over land from Bengal to akan and from Erakan to Prone ich lay around the bank of the avali at the southern end of the ntral Burma. No one knows how any Indians came to Burma in those days, but, it appears that they had been coming for over 200 years in small numbers to become an integral part of Burmese nation. There was no invasion or influence from India and the might of the early Hindu rulers or of the great moghals of India was never directed against Burma. The beginning of Indian immigration on an appreciable scale may be dated to 1852 with the annexation of lower Burma. Indians were needed in large numbers not only for administrative and military purposes but also as huwards of goods and tearers of Jungles. The Irrawaddy delta the most fertile part of Burma was then very largely a vast plain of barenness. Within a few decades what was the most sparsely populated part of Burma was to become the heart of world's rice production and the most prosperous and thickly populated area in Burma. Rangoon, a marshy little water front was to be developed into a major port, ranking high with Bombay and Calcutta and it was to be converted into one of the most progressive and well planned cities in the east and to serve as the Capital of Burma. Investments, money, and materials in the large quantities were needed, and commandered for these and other purposes, following the annexation of lower Burma as a British Indian territory.

The development of Rangoon as prenominally Indian city is an interesting story. In 1824, when Rangoon was temporarily occupied by the British Indian forces during the first Anglo-Burman war, it was a village of some 1500 houses and 9000 people. In 1852, when lower Burma was finally annexed to British India, an estimated 30,000 were living in Rangoon in odd kinds of timber and bamboo huts built on muddy grounds, surrounded by swamps and waterlogged areas. One of the principal tasks of the new administration was to develop Rangoon into a port and as a capital of Burma. For this, no pains were spared and it was a formidable task. It took nearly two decades from 1852 to 1872 to develop central part of the city alone and all the hard manual work was done by the Indian labourers imported seasonally by Indian contractors. Funds for development came largely from sales of building sites for which Indians were principal buyers. Rangoon expanded quickly with the growth of trade and agriculture, the introduction of frequent steamship services between India and Burma, the influx of Indian immigrants and ever-increasing need for new accommodation. Indian money lenders, businessmen, contractors, and speculators began to invest heavily in lands and buildings with expectations of big profit, which they undoubtedly made. At the 1872 census, Indians were small minority of 16000 persons. That is about 16 percent of Rangoon's 98,000 residents. By 1881 Indians numbered 66,000 accounting for 44 per cent of city's total population of 134,000. At 1891 and 1901 censuses, the number of Indians in Rangoon had increased to 87,000 and 120,000 respectively constituting about half the population in the city. In addition thousands of Indians were passing thru Rangoon which was their main port of entry and exit. Between 1852 and 1900, Rangoon thus developed from a small town into a city of about ½ million people and looked Indian in appearance. It became the main camp from which Indians filtered all over Burma. The new capital in its modern form was built by Indians from 1870. Most of its valuable lands, buildings and shopping centers were owned by the Indians and its trade and commerce remained largely in the hands of Indians. All this became object of envy.

The Migration

The annexation of Burma to India, the unrestricted immigration of Indians, development of economy complimentry to India the employment of Indian armed forces for maintaining law and order and Indian civil servants for administration etc. were some of the factors responsible for a large scale immigration of Indians into Burma. An over-all estimate of the gradual growth of Indian population is given in the table below.

Gradual growth of Indian Population, 1881 - 1941

Year	Total Population	Indian Population	Indian %
1881	3,736,771	243,123	6.5
1891	8,098,014	420,830	5.1
1901	10,490,624	568,263	5.4
1911	12,115,217	743,288	6.1
1921	13,212,192	887,077	6.7
1931	14,667,146	1,017,825	6.9
1941	16,823,798	918,000	5.4

It will be seen from the table that between the years 1881 and 1941 the Indian population ranged from 5 to 6 per cent of the total population of Burma. However, of greater importance was the fact that Indians were concentrated in certain parts of Burma and in these parts their concentrations were quite heavy. For example in the Arakan province Indians constituted about 20 per cent of the total population. They comprised about 33 per cent of the population of Arakan district alone. In Rangoon in 1931 Indians were the single largest group living there and they constituted more than 66 per cent of the city's population. Over 1/3 of all Indians in mainland Burma were concentrated in Rangoon, which, being the only major port of the country, was also main center of all arrivals in, and departures from Burma. Generally speaking, three classes of Indians came to live, work and seek their fortune in Burma. First, capitalist or trading class, in very small number, thoroughly conversant with methods of international trade, banking, commerce and industry, and willing to invest heavily. Like all owners of private enterprises all over the world, they naturally desired to enrich themselves but they did at the same time enrich Burma as can be seen from the figures quoted above.

We need not go far for examples. The small Parsee community of India, coming from outside has been at root of Industralization in India, the same may be said of the immigrants or Jewish community in many countries. In fact Burma was fortunate in attracting Parsees, Jews and Chettyars from India along with large European firms which were at the root of Burma's prosperity. Another small but urgently needed intellectual class consisted of teachers, professors, Doctors, Engineers, lawyers, accountants, clerical and administrative staff which were in short supply until the late 1930's. They together with Europeans were the pioneers in setting up modern educational, medical, executive, judicial, revenue and municipal system of administration in Burma.

The labouring class both skilled and unskilled workers, was needed in great numbers to meet the growing demands of the economy which could not be met by local supply. Barring the two small upper classes mentioned above the fairly rich capitalist class and intellectual middle class, there was majority of Indians belonging to low paid working class mostly illiterate, accustomed to hard work and exploited both at home and abroad.

Chettyars

Among Indian business interest in Burma, most important was that of the Chettyar community which came mostly from the Chettinad district of Madras state. This Vaishya caste of old Tamilnad have been maritime traders and bankers from the start. When the Indian trading interest took downhill turn in the 19th century, in competition with the western maritime traders with their newly developed industrial products the Chettyars directed their attention mostly to banking and developed a large scale and well organised banking business in south and Southeast Asia, particularly in Madras, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Indo-China, Thailand, Indonesia and Mauritius.

After the first Anglo-Burman war and the British occupation of Tenasserim in 1826, the Chettyars along with other Indian traders started their business on a minor scale and by the time the British occupied the whole of lower Burma after the Anglo-Burman war in 1852, Chettyars were firmly established in Tenasserim particularly in Moulmeim, the chief port and business center of Tenasserim. With the gradual restoration of law and order in lower Burma, they spread their business to other centers of trade and business including Rangoon, Pegu, Prome, Bassein and several towns of Irrawaddy delta. The British occupation of upper
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The fall in prices was foll
great economic troubles
turn brought about collapse
and order in rural areas,
bellion broke out in parts
Burma. It became impos
both bankers and borr
honour their obligations.
standing loans could not be
Chettyar firms had no optio
foreclose on the security
The only property that the
possessed was land and it
easy for him to part with th
his property and become te

oney lender. On the other hand it as very much against the business terest of the Chettyar to be saddled ith the titles of agricultural lands or which he had very little use; what e needed most as a banker was his quid assets which were then sunk in he mud. With their cash frozen the hettyars found it impossible to onour their obligations to their depositors and bankers and carry on money lending as before. The importance of the Chettyar finances in he agriculture and economic life of urma thus began to decline. After he depression Chettyars lost all nterest in getting new business and ust managed to keep old business live on a reduced scale hoping that hey might in the course of time be ble to revive business and realize in ash at least a portion of their eavy investments made over a very ong period, that hope never materialized. The Chettyar had no esire to become a land owner, he was a banker not a farmer. The conomic depression forced him either o foreclose or to lose his investments. When he foreclosed he had to retain he ownership of land because there was no one else to purchase hem from him. 2½ million acres of best paddy land in lower Burma hus came under Chettyar ownership hru circumstances beyond their control. This fact became a serious olitical issue. During the agitation or separation from India, Burman ationalist frequently pointed out the hettyar occupation of lands as an nstance of Indian colonialism within British colonialism. The fact that the gricultural revolution in lower urma was brought about very largely y Chettyar finances combined with he cheap labour from upper Burma nd by the Indian traders (again ssisted by Chettyars) and British hippers who marketed Burman's rice n the world market was clearly forgotten or conveniently over-looked y politicians in the 1930's. In times f prosperity which lasted for many ears the Burmese cultivators unfortunately acquired the habit of living increasingly on future borrowing n the strength of next year's harvest. Ioney lenders including Chettyars lso happily extended credits with the xpectation of high profits. All this orked satisfactorily as long as capital ssets were being created. But by 929 lands which could be brought nder new cultivation without a rge expenditure of a capital became xceedingly limited and price of rice egan to fall. Lands gradually passed into the hands of the non farming iddle class and money lenders both urmans and Indians, from the actual llers of the soil, the society of the easant proprietors gave place to a ass of absentee land lords, the overnment had neither a policy nor he means to stop the process. The ze of Chettyar capital in Burma was estimated at about Rupees 8800 million or 60 million sterling in 1929. Most of these finances, as has been mentioned above, was invested in land which the Chettyars did not want to hold in any case. The government became conscious of the situation only when it was too late and under political pressure adopted measures which were none too satisfactory. As a result of the recommendation of the Land and Agricultural Committee a tenancy act was passed in 1938/39 which drastically cut the rents payable by tenants. This was meant to be measure of relief to the tenants but the landlords including Chettyars already overloaded with unpaid debts could ill afford to sacrifice rents and be also responsible for providing whatever agriculture finance they could to cultivating tenants. Burmese landlords and NÇA joined hands and appealed to government to stop taking action under the act and also submitted a complaint to Rangoon high court for an estimated loss of Rs 2.5 milion on account of the reduction of rents. The court gave the judgement in favour of the land lord. In the confusion the government passed an ordinance which practically invalidated the Tenancy Act. A Land Alienation Act was pased in 1939/40 which virtually prohibited the transfer of lands from the farmers to non-farmers. But it was again too late. The non-farmers had by then been overburdened with lands already acquired and had little appetite for fresh acquisition of lands and with the passage of the Act all new loans on lands naturally stopped. To add to the confusion a Land Purchase Bill was introduced in the legislature early in 1940 to provide for the compulsory acquisition of land from the land lords and amid considerable opposition this controversial bill became a law in May 1941. No effective action could actually be taken under this law due to the Japanese invasion in 1941/42. But the combined effect of the situation created by these laws and Japanese invasion was that the Chettyar investment of about 60 million sterling could be considered as a total loss and could as well be written off in 1941/42 for Chettyars were not really allowed to function thereafter either by the Japanese or the British occupation authorities and after the independence of Burma, the Chettyars' claims for compensation of lands nationalized by the government were never seriously considered.

Indo-Burman Trade

As a province of India, Burma was within the currency, fiscal and monetary system of India. Free trade and free remittance facilities prevailed between the two countries from the time Burma was added to the British empire. The administration of currency, coinage, customs tarrif and income tax was the concern of government of India and the provincial government of Burma had no control over these matters until 1937 that is the date of separation of Burma from India. At separation a trade agreement was made between the two countries the effect of which was to ensure that the Indian goods could enter Burma free of duty and without restrictions and vice versa. In the same agreement it was also provided that the tarif schedules in operation at the date of separation would remain effective in both countries and that no change would be made in schedules by one without the consent of the other. The agreement had several other clauses. A fairly good idea of normal composition of trade between the two countries averaged around Rs 400 to 450 million. Broadly speaking in terms of money value, rice alone accounted for 50% of Burma's total exports to India. Balance was made of miscellaneous items. About 90% of India's rice imports came from Burma which led the world in the rice trade accounting for nearly 2/5 of the total world exports. The large rice mills were owned by the British firms but very substantial number of medium size rice mills were owned by Indians. As regards exports from India the most important were cotton manufactures which constituted about 40% of Burma's export. However, despite free trade the presence of many Indian cloth dealers in Burma and the preference which India enjoyed over Japanese and other importers India could provide only about 30% of Burma's textile imports. Other imports of importance were Indian jute, iron and steel, gold and coal etc. Indo-Burman trade was indisputably of very great importance to Burma as well as to India and it was highly beneficial to the economies of both countries. Although India's trade with Burma represented only about 7% of India's total foreign trade, it included number of goods particularly rice, petroleum and teak wood which were essential for Indian economy. Burma also found in India a great and profitable market within easy reach for her agricultural, forest and mineral products which could not be absorbed locally and which required to be disposed of readily for maintaining the progress of growth of her economy. India thus became the principal customer of Burma accounting for near 3/5 of Burma's foreign trade. One of the main reasons for Burma's rapid development within short space of three or four decades was her favourable trade balance with other countries particularly with India which contributed towards capital formation and new investment in Burma. It may also be mentioned that Indian participation in the foreign trade of Burma was substantial and at its lowest level it has been estimated to be about Rs 350 million. Indian participation in the domestic trade of Burma was also very extensive. Indian shops — particularly grocery, departmental, food and drug stores could be seen all over Burma in urban and rural areas. In 1931 about 82,000 Indian traders and shop assistants were in Burma and they constituted about 17% of the total persons engaged in trade. Most of the large shops in important centers of the trade and in big cities in Burma belonged to the Indians and each and every district towns, subdivisional towns and township center contained several Indian shops. The muslims of South India popularly known as 'Churias' in Burma owned shops even in remote villages, in addition to those located in towns and cities. There were also a large number of prosperous Marwari's, Gujrati's, Parsees, Sindhi's, Surati's and Khojas doing business mostly in the big cities mentioned above. Indian hotels, restaurants, food centers, jewellery shops and cinemas were fairly well distributed in all important cities and towns. Most of the traders also owned lands and buildings at their places of business. The net worth of these traders was substantial but no reliable estimate is available. Though they included a number of small shop keepers, the investment of all the Indian traders, in local or domestic trade of Burma would add upto a very large amount and at a modest rate it has been estimated to exceed about Rs 160 million or 12 million sterling. In addition to the above mentioned investments in domestic trade of Burma, Indians had large stakes in industries, urban real estates, banking, shipping insurance etc. They also had substantial share in British joint stock companies engaged in rice, teak, petroleum and other leading firms in Burma and of course towering above all were the investments of the Indian Chettyars in agriculture and land. All these would be taken into consideration as far as practicable while making an estimate of the wealth of Indians in Burma.

Wealth of Indians

The most reliable method of estimating wealth of Indians in Burma is to refer to the report of the tribunal that was set up to assess the wealth of the Indians in Burma at the time of separation of Burma from India. As a result of detailed examination tribunal estimated that at the time of separation from India Burma owed a debt of Rs 508 million to India excluding liability for pensions. The tribunal asked Burma to pay this money to India and in the meantime fixed the rate of interest for the valution of the debts and for the conversion of the capital sum into annuities at 3½%, the annuity required to redeem the principal and interest in 45 years was Rs 22.5 million. Burma respected her obligations to India and made regular payments towards the liquidation of her debts during the fiscal years 1937/38 thru 1940/41. Payment ceased only when the country was invaded. Amount outstanding at the time of Burma's invasion was approximately Rs 487 million of the original debt plus an unspecified liability for pensions. Similarly efforts were made to estimate the position of Indian investments in Burma before the war. According to most reliable estimates the private Indian investments in Burma at the time of the Japanese occupation was Rs 1,890 million. The break of these amounts further shows that the Chettyars investments amounted to Rs 750 million, the debt owed to Government of India amounted to Rs 487 million. The value of the Indian industrial establishment came to Rs 150 million. Another 160 million Rupees were invested in real estate in Rangoon and value of real estate in other towns and cities as well as investments on plantation and mines has not been estimated. Thus the figure of little less than 2000 million Rupees of private investments falls short of the amount actually claimed by Indian community to be the real value of their investment in the country. According to Mr Russel Andrus, a professor of Economics at the Rangoon University, the total Indian investments in Burma amounted to 155 million pounds sterlings. He further estimates that of this investment 56 million pounds were invested by the Indian Chettyars, 360 million pounds were invested by Government of India, 325 million pounds were in urban and real estate, 100 million pounds were invested in Industrial establishment and the net worth of Indian corporation in Burma was 172 million pounds. It should be of interest to record at this stage as to how Burma settled its debts to India. In 1954/55, Burma's debt to India stood at about Rs 600 millions, of which about Rs 400 million represented capital and Rs 200 million interest. India with the principal object of maintaining relationship with Burma, wrote off Rs 200 million of the capital and the entire interest of Rs 200 milions. Of the remaining Rs 200 million of capital Rs 156 millions was made available from the high rate of rice paid by India at Pound 48 per ton against the world price of rice of about pounds 35 per ton plus the margin of 13 pounds per ton adjustment towards the debt and the balance was treated as financial aid to Burma. In effect, therefore, India wrote off the entire debt which Burma owed to India. There were errors of about Rs 60 million on pension charges by Burma which she agreed to pay over 20 years free of interest. this time India also agreed to a stand-by credit of Rs 200 m Burma to meet her external ments and other emergen these financial settlements tremely favourable to Bur these generous concessions ly acted as incentive. Visits ranking leaders, high level and delegations from India to and vice versa continued b did not improve the lot of Indians. By May 1964, the ment of India had officially over 300,000 exile Burma In refugees deprived of live Burma thru nationalization measures. Special arrangem made to ply three steam ships Rangoon and Madras and to air services for the evacuati Indian refugees. The total of Indians repatriated to Mad was about 10,50,000 betwee 68 and another batch of 50 expected before the end of t The refugees complained of priation of their properti fiscation of valuables, de tion of currency notes of Rs upward etc. All without c tion. They were allowed to only a few rupees per head money. The Burmese point appeared to be that these were given time and oppor become Burma nationals b preferred to remain as Indians could not indefinitely pro such aliens who should nor the place in their own cou dians had not been treated ferently from any other Burma. Some of them were because of non-discloure of non-payment of tax, black and smuggling. Nationaliza other economic measures taken in national interest These were not particularly against the Indians but were applicable to all including mans. Compensations wo tainly be considered but it would depend on Burma's c pay.

No reliable information is about the number of persons dian origin in Burma for the period. For purposes of a estimate it may perhaps be that those who survive the Japanese occupation and the reoccupation were not 300,000. To this should the few thousands who with the Indian army to as cupation forces during 194 estimated number at the end therefore would be between and 600,000. A number of and those separated fr families during Japanese left for India during 46/47 number of old residents who war properties or sources

Burma were allowed to return. In
ldition various Burma offices set up
the exiled government in India to-
ther with large number of Indian
nployees and their families were
ansferred to Burma during 1946/47.
may therefore be assumed that the
umber of persons of Indian
rigin at the end of 1947 was some-
here between 600,000 and 700,000
nd Prime Minister Nehru in a state-
ent in the Indian parliament put
at number about 700,000. After
e commencement of the civil strife
Burma many Indians lost their
urces of income and over 50,000
turned to India before 1947. As
milar conditions prevailed during
950/52 another 50,000 are assumed
have left by that time. The union
f Burma census in 1953 reported
at the number of persons of Indian
rigin in urban areas was about
87,00. No figures for rural areas
ere available. On the whole it may
ot be unreasonable to assume that
ward the end of 1950's there were
bout 550,000 Indians in Burma.
uring the 1960's Indians have been
aving Burma almost continuously
nd according to various reports in
e newspapers about 300,000 had
ft already chiefly due to various na-
onalization measures reducing the
dian population from about 200,000
50,000. These quarter of millions
f people mostly stateless and poor
ill remain in scraping a living some
ow in a country that does not want
em. They continue to present a
uman problem hardly noticed by
e civilized world.

Maoyana

Mao's "Red Book," which has been translated into various languages of the world, has been versified in Hindi by a pro-Marxist teacher of Dhaunsad village, Mr Babulal Dwivedi.

Mr Dwivedi, who has adopted the chaupai system of the Ramayana, has completed the translation in popular Hindi in 100 pages of manuscript.

Mr Dwivedi is a zilla parishad teacher with meagre means and feels that it will take time to get "Mao Kiran," as the Hindi version is called, printed on a mass scale.

Mr Dwivedi occasionally visits rural areas, generally Harijan localities, and recites passages from "Mao Kiran" with comments and background information on Mao.

Jokes

Wife : I have surprise for you. I baked two kinds of biscuits today. Would you like to take your pick?

Husband: It may not be necessary. I'll just use the hammer.

* * *

Judge : Have you anything to say before sentence is passed on you?

Prisoner : No, your honour, except that it takes very little to please me.

* * *

Have you heard about—

— The man who was too lazy to walk in his sleep? He hitch hiked.

— The dog that visited the flea circus and stole the show.

— The boy scout who did so many good turns, he got dizzy.

* * *

Dee : What model is your car?

Lee : It isn't a model. It's a horrible example!

* * *

A visitor just back from Calcutta reported that the tipping there has reached an all time high. He phoned the room service for a deck of cards. The waiter delivered it in 52 trips—one card at a time.

* * *

I had everything that a man could wish for, sighed an Overseas Indian, "Money, a well furnished apartment, the love of a pretty woman."

And then!

"My wife flew in."

* * *

There are many jokes that depict stereo images about various communities.

A new city was being developed. Panjabis came in and took to craftsmanship and contracts. Sindhis started building apartment houses. Gujratis and Marwaris set up shops and Maharashtrians started book keeping. Tamilians moved in with typewriters and Keralaites spread their tea shops all over the place.

Finally came the Bengali and started shouting, "We demand equal rights"

* * *

You must have heard of the absent minded professor who in a hurry to get on the train, kissed the porter on both cheeks and tipped his wife miserly.

* * *

Diner : Just look at this chicken! It is nothing but skin and bones!

Waiter : Yes, Sir, would you like the feathers, too?

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Short Story

Contributed

Power of Suggestion

Ramesh Deo sat quietly behind the vide desk in his private office, listenng to the muted sounds of traffic treaming by below him on Marine Drive. He was visible from three ngles, for the plush office was urnished with several huge mirrors tretching from floor to ceiling, to ive the impression of space. It was he nature of Deo's business that he pent much time confined to his ffice, and he wanted to spend that ime in an unstifled atmosphere conucive to decision-making. The three Deos were men of about fifty, beginng to grey, with handsome, aggresive faces becoming slightly padded vith the excess flesh of middle age.

— A Mystery Story —

. . . He sat in his lavishly furnished office. Graphs, charts and elephone were his tools of trade. He operated on stock market in a ool and calculated manner. And yet he wavered, notwithstanding a tockpile of pertinent facts, the power of suggestion was formidable. . . . .

hey lifted their right arms simultaneusly and picked up the telephone ceiver.

Stock market

"Anand?" Deo said into the telehone. "Give me a quote on Indane". "I see," Deo said after a pause. e drummed his fingers on the nooth desk top, letting the man on e other end of the line wait. "Buy e five hundred shares," he said then. 'll talk to you later, Anand."

Deo hung up the phone and gazed ound him at the many handsomely amed charts hanging on the walls, the wide table in the office corner vered with more charts and graphs, ancial reports, figure sheets on great corporations and small alike. With his pencil, with his ascending and descending lines and sheet after sheet of figures, Deo was able to keep his finger on the pulse of the stock market. As an independent speculator and investor he had to, in order to stay in business.

Deo was intimately familiar with the countless graphs around him and he believed in them. If all the pertinent facts were known, almost anything could be reduced to a graph, could be analyzed, plotted and more importantly, predicted, at least to the degree that Deo had made a profitable business out of it.

When he'd returned from Dibrugarh last year he had started the business, working out of his apartment, but soon the reams of graphs and assorted information, the tools of his trade, became too numerous. He was making plenty of money, so he rented this office on Marine Drive, had it lavishly decorated and had two telephones installed. Here, alone in his office with his charts and telephones, he was building his fortune.

Enters Shamlal

Deo gave a little start behind his desk at the knock on his door. It was most unusual for anyone to be calling on him at the office. He straightened his tie and called for the visitor to enter.

A tall, dark-complexioned man stepped into the office and closed the door behind him. He was broad-shouldered and muscular, though the trim cut of his dark-blue business suit made him appear almost slender. With a wide smile on his pleasant face, he glanced about him at the imposing graphs hanging upon the walls before advancing on the desk.

"Mr Deo," he said, extending his right hand, "I am Shamlal . . . of the Thakur family."

Deo's heart leaped as he shook hands. Well, there was nothing this man could do about it now, even if he were fully aware of what had really happened.

"Yes," Deo said, "I know of the family from my stay in Dibrugrah and I have heard of you."

"I'm honoured, sir," Shamlal said in his velvety, high-pitched voice. It was a cultured voice, grammatically precise, and Deo could almost see the verbal punctuation in the air. "I have been a long time away from Dibrugarh. It surprises me that you have heard of me."

"I heard you mentioned in a conversation about your father," Deo said. "Your father, you know, is rumored to be a . . . . . . What is its?"

"A hungan," Shamlal said pleasantly, "and it is good, sir, that you know I am of his family."

Again Deo felt an irregularity in his heartbeat. He remembered now —native superstitition. A hungan, or 'shaman' as he'd heard them called, was a voodoo witch doctor. There was always talk of such nonsense when he was in the East, it had developed into quite a gimmick for the tourist trade. And this was Shamlal, one of the sons of the Thakur clan, well-traveled and educated in Europe—on some kind of foundation grant, no doubt.

"Well," Deo said, "what is it that brings you to Bombay?"

"I will be here for some time," Shamlal said, "staying at the Taj and I thought I would talk with you about the SKS company."

"But....." Deo shrugged, "..... it no longer exists."

"I am aware," Shamlal said in a sad voice behind his smile. "Bankruptcy, liquidation—it was cruel."

"Cruel?" Deo shook his head. "It was unavoidable."

Shamlal's smiling dark eyes met Deo's directly. "You, sir, as the manager, should know better. After an entire tribe of people had migrated from their homes, after they had been promised wages to live on, you got them to help you strip the land and then liquidated the company, paying them no wages, leaving them to poverty and hunger."

Deo pressed the flat of his hand on the desk. "But there simply was no money! Don't you understand?"

"I understand, sir, the mechanics of business," Shamlal said, "I know that the profits of SKS went to the parent company that owned most of the stock, that all assets went in various ways to the parent company so that when liquidation occurred, there was nothing for the people. I am not inexperienced in the world of finance, sir."

Deo drew a gold fountain pen from his pocket and began toying with it. "Well," he said, staring at the pen, "It does no good to talk about it now."

"That's true," Shamlal said, "but I must tell you that my people will not tolerate what has happened. I can perform tasks that my father could."

Deo's body stiffened in sudden shock. "And how you propose to do that?" he asked in a tight voice.

"You needn't fear death by the hand of man," Shamlal said in his pleasant, smooth voice, "but death will come to you; death is on the way to you."

Deo felt himself getting angry. "What the hell do you intend to do, stick pins in a doll or something? I don't believe in your malarkey any more than I believe in leprechaunts, and I'm surprised an educated man like yourself does. You must know that voodoo works by the power of suggestion; the intended victim must believe in it or it's worthless. And I assure you I don't believe in it!"

"I am aware," Shamlal said calmly.

"I am aware, too," Deo said angrily. 'Now get the hell out."

He watched Shamlal smile and get up slowly. Deo felt the hardness of his walnut desk top for re-assurance. Around him were the wall charts, the square-cornered filing cabinets, account books and the like. While below him he could hear the Marine Drive traffic passing by in an endless stream of reassuring noise and gleaming metal. This was Bombay not Dibrugarh. Was this savage in an expensive business suit out of his mind?

Shamlal turned and walked gracefully to the door. Deo expected him to turn back and say something before leaving but he didn't. He sat motionless for a while, looking at the blank panel of the closed door. Then the heavy quiet of the office was broken by jangle of one of the telephones on the desk. It was Anand calling to tell Deo that he had been able to buy Indane at 24½.

Comes a letter

Within a week Deo had forgotten about Shamlal's visit, and there was no reason for him to remember it when he received a leter from Stock Investment Research advising him to consider buying Dinar Electronics. The letter, an ordinary form letter, was like hundreds of others that Deo received each year. He was always deluged by mail from private research firms, hoping to get him to subscribe to their weekly or monthly newsletter at bargain rates; and like S. I. R., they often supplied sample tips to lure customers. Deo tossed the letter onto a pile with the rest of his correspondence and promptly put it out of his mind.

Three days later he noticed that Dinar Electronics had risen almost three points, from 30⅝ to to 33½. He began to watch it more carefully.

That same day another letter arrived from S.I.R., advising him again to buy Dinar Electronics. Deo folded the letter and placed it in one of his desk drawers.

Dinar remained around 33 for the next week, then Deo received another leter from S.I.R. telling him that, due to certain information they couldn't divulge, Dinar's stock was due for a sudden upsurge.

Deo stared at the letter for a long time. Then he picked up the telephone and called his broker to inquire about Dinar Electronics and to ask for a prospectus.

Anand knew nothing about the stock that might suggest it would rise. Dinar was a fairly large company that made radio parts and showed a steady increase in earnings each year, though last quarter they had taken something of a beating du expense of opening a new pl

The next day the prosp Dinar came in the mail, alo another letter from S.I.R. again the purchase of shares company. This time the le accompanied by a set of gra ing the expected curve of D profits into 1972. Deo comp graphs with the information last quarter, they tallied exa parently S.I.R. had done s curate homework. But wo upward sweeping curve future be correct?

Dinar seemed to be a sol pany at least, so after stud prospectus Deo picked up th and bought a hundred shares a feeler.

Stocks go up

Within a few days Dinar El stock was up to 38½. Anot and set of graphs arrived fr telling Deo that Dinar was smart buy despite the sud that the stock was destined higher very shortly. Deo t Anand, who told him that th rumours about Dinar no possible take-overs, mergers ment contracts, but only Deo studied his charts from fully, called Anand back an 500 shares.

Profit-taking drove Din down to 34, then it began steadily on heavy volume. broke in the papers that D tronics had been awarde government contract to m ponents for the space proje the end of the month the soared to 47⅜.

Demise predicted

A letter came from S.I.R. Deo to hold all his stock. time, along with the le graphs, came a curious thin

It was a carefully actuary chart from one of th insurance companies in the showing the decreased life of people with a history trouble at various ages. no explanation, only the ch haps it had been placed in velope by mistake—but D history of heart trouble.

When the next letter fr arrived, Deo got a mome Along with the usual info a chart listing the unfavo expectancy statistics for p had suffered exactly the s heart attack that Deo had three years before. Smo creased the number of y people had to live; being cut more years from their li g in professions that tried the erves was unfavorable; married ex- eart patients tended to live longer han those unmaried; rural patients utlived urban dwellers. As Deo's yes studied the deadly statistics he ealized that all of these things, all f them applied to him.

It was then that he remembered hamlal's visit and a flash of indignaion and anger shot through him. Of course Deo's heart attack hadn't een a secret, and Shamlal would ave the money and resources to reearch him quite thoroughly. magine trying something like this! He lifted the telephone to call hamlal at the hotel and vent his nger, then he thought better of it nd replaced the receiver in its cradle. Why give the man the satisfaction of knowing he'd gotten his intended victim angry? Deo cursed himself or becoming upset over such supertitious harassment and crumpled the nformation from S.I.R. and tossed it nto the waste basket. He noted as he did so, however, that S.I.R. still dvised holding Dinar Electronics.

The next week, out of curiosity, Deo inquired into S.I.R. address in he city and found it to be the address f a mortuary. That, he thought, was a nice touch.

That same afternoon another letter rrived from S.I.R., telling Deo to ell Dinar Electronics. The letter tated that despite the government ontract, another unfavorable earnings eport would drive the price of the tock down. There was another raph enclosed with the letter, a graph hat made Deo's breathing quicken nd his right hand moved unconiously to his chest. At the top of he lined paper was the heading: Life nd Projected Life Expectancy of amesh Deo. A thick black line arted at the left side of the graph in column marked October 3rd, 1920, e date of Deo's birth, rose through olescence into adulthood, remained eady, curved downward into middle e, then dipped sharply at the date his heart attack. Then the line ent into a gradual decline, turned ey at today's date, extended to the d of the month and finally stopped mpletely. Deo reached for the ephone again to call Shamlal, but paused, the receiver pressed to his r, and instead called Anand and ld half his stock of Dinar Elecnics shares.

A week later, Dinar did issue a y unfavorable earnings report and ir stock plummeted. Deo sold the rest of his shares at 43 and still made a nice profit. Letters from S.I.R. were arriving almost daily now, accompanied by graphs and information sheets that predicted Deo's demise. Deo was becoming nervous, irritated at the slightest things, but the last thing he would do, the most unwise thing he could do, would be to call Shamlal and ask him to quit. He could call the police, of course, but what would they be able to prove? They would think that he, Deo, was the superstitious fool.

Heart attack

It was the day the elevator was out of commission that it happened. Deo had to climb the six flights of stairs to his office, but he took the steps slowly and carefully. His heart had been beating quickly and irregularly of late anyway, and after the operation his doctor had told him not to exert himself. Nevertheless, when he closed his office door behind him he was breathing quickly, too quickly. From the corner of his eye he saw the top of an envelope from S.I.R. stickning out of the wastebasket. Did his heart skip a beat? A wave of fear went through Deo as he leaned on the door. Of course, his heart might have skipped a beat! That was normal, he was out of breath, it had skipped a beat before.

Deo drew a deep, steadying breath and began to cross the office towards his desk, and his heart did skip a beat, it did! His hand moved to his chest, wrinkling his white shirt front beneath his tie. Now his heart seemed to be beating irregularly, spasmodically!

Shamlal! Could it be possible? Was he actually able with his statistics and graphs to suggest to Deo the moment of his death? Of course not ...... But he had been right about Dinar Electronics stock, and Dinar Electronics stock had gone down!

Then Deo felt the pain. It was a quick, subtle pain that might have been all in his mind, or might not have been. He felt his heart leap beneath his clutching fingers and fear shot up in him like a flame. Clumsily, he stretched out his left hand and supported himself on the desk, waiting for the next pain. It came, searing through his chest like fire, moving up and out, cutting off his breath, turning his arm to molten lead! Gasping, his face mottled and distorted, Deo struggled around the desk to the telephones and dialled the first person he could think of. "Anand ......"

Shamlal walks out

It was a massive heart attack, but not a fatal one. Afterwards, though the doctors claimed Deo was in critical condition and too ill to have visitors, they finally asquiesced to his demands to see his "old friend" Shamlal.

Deo watched him come through the door to the tiny hospital room, somehow walking silently over the tile floor. Shamlal was immaculately groomed, as before, wearing a tailored dark suit and with the suggestion of a smile on his dark face. "They told me you wished to see me," he said pleasantly.

Deo waited for the nurse to leave before answering, then he looked up at Shamlal who had lost, Deo told himself. Deo had had his heart attack, but he was still living.

"You caused this," he said to Shamlal in a hoarse voice. "You have caused me to be an invalid for the rest of my life, if I'm wheeled out of here alive."

Shamlal smiled down at him. "You are the one who caused it, sir."

Deo felt the anger stir in him, but he had promised himself that he'd stay calm. After all, it was just possible he'd have had his heart attack if Shamlal had never entered his life. That was the thing he really wanted to believe. He was not a superstitious man, but there was something he still didn't understand.

"I called you here to ask you one question," Deo said, "and I want you to promise to tell me the truth."

Shamlal considered for a moment before answering. "I will give you that promise."

Deo raised his head slightly from his pillow. "How did you know that Dinar Electronics stock would go up?"

Again Shamlal smiled down at Deo and his dark eyes seemed to grow deeper and darker. "I am on the board of directors, sir." He turned then, still smiling, and strode out silently from the room.

From that day on Deo struggled desperately to recover, but his heart had been severely damaged, irreparably damaged, and the chart at the foot of his bed showed a steady decline until death.

* * *

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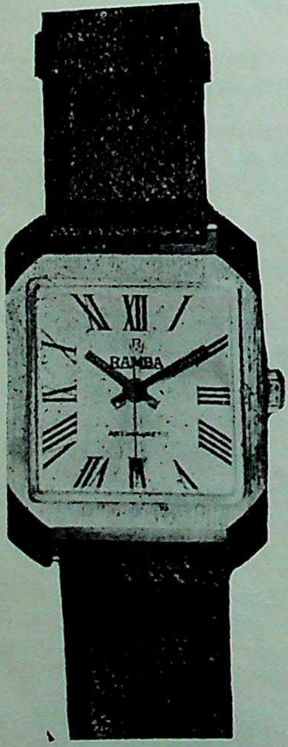

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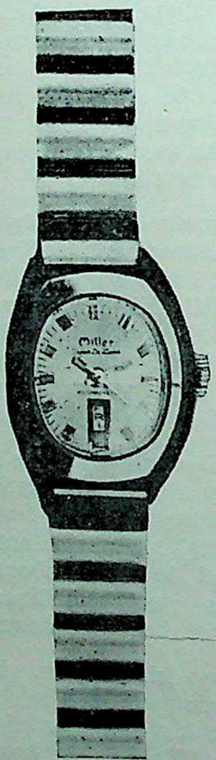

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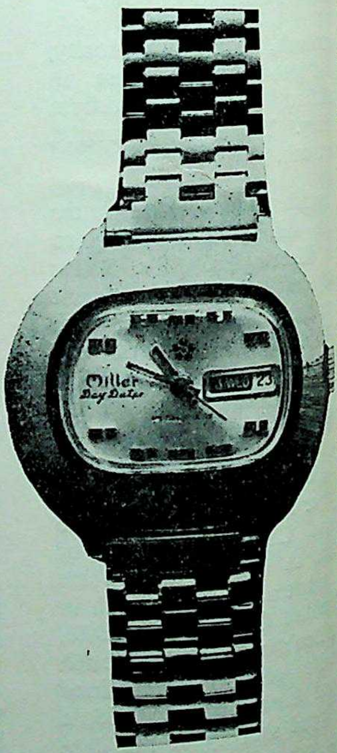
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Reader's Ask

Q. *If there were to be no Nehru in India?*

A. There would have been Yahya Khans and Ayub Khans.

Q. *Did Indians first discover astrology?*

A. Though the stars science is described in Vedas, recorded history shows that astrology was practised in India about 5000 years ago.

Q. *What is World Court?*

A. W. C.

Q. *Indian cinema halls play national anthem at the end of every show but people start going away before it starts.*

A. If blue movies are shown after the national anthem, most people would stay back.

Q. *Shah of Iran says his country will become a world power in 5 years.*

A. Oil is heady.

Q. *What are words?*

A. Words are pegs to hang ideas.

Q. *What is the most precious possession of a man?*

A. A woman's heart.

Q. *What is the status of "A" level pass of the Hongkong University vis-a-vis Indian Universities?*

A. G.C.A. 'A' level pass in three subjects of HKU or of British and Commonwealth countries' universities qualifies a student for admission to second year of 4 year B.A. (Bombay) or first year of 3 year B.A. (Delhi) courses of Indian Universities. 'A' level pass in 3 subjects of H.G.C.E. of Cambridge or equivalent is considered for admission to Junior B.A. or second year of 3 year B.A. courses in India.

Q. *How many medical colleges are there in India? How should one apply for admission?*

A. India has 93 medical colleges. Admissions to first year M.B.B.S. take place around May-July every year. Indian nationals, resident or non-resident—should apply directly to the colleges within their native states. Non-National Indians should apply to the Ministry of Education, Government of India in the month of February. The former method is easier. A candidate shoots applications to a dozen or more colleges, atleast one place gets hit.

Q. *When should one go to Hardwar?*

A. Some day all of us go there. But if you want to go earlier, summers are hot and dirty, in monsoons water is muddy and it is too cold in winter. For the devotee, any time is good enough. Hardwar is 4 hours drive from Delhi. Roads are excellent. Air conditioned cars can be hired at all big hotels in Delhi for about Rs 300 for two-way trip.

Q. *How do I see all seven Delhis in one day?*

A. Take me along.

Q. *Why do people name drop?*

A. Better to drop names than bricks.

Q. *I hear liquor is very cheap in Bombay?*

A. You are right, chum! Bombayites are quenching their decades old thirst with gusto.

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Letters to the editor

Pat on Back

Sir,

The strides made by THE INDIAN n such a short space of 3 years, deerves congratulations, best wishes nd above all the greater support of he readers .... Indians and Nonndians. As an avid reader, I do not vish to fall back in extending the eartiest congratulations and best vishes for its long life and creation of ealthy and fraternal atmosphere mongst all.

"The Indian" is a complementary nagazine rather than a competitive ne. It ventures to fulfill the cultural,, social and political aspects, iving news and views woes and choes of India and the overseas Inians. When it is run by non-profesionals without profit motive, it eserves credit and acknowledgement n account of the progress made ithin the span of only these years.

Dissemination of truth .... indeed lefty ideal and aim .... requires oth courage and diplomacy in a reater degree. To say something npleasant frankly or to criticise luntly creates hatred and enemity, ading to frictions and fractions. ith diplomacy unpleasant thing is onveyed in a pleasant manner so that e tinge of harshness in minimised. ruth is a poison and people refuse swallow it without sugar-coating on . Grooves of discontent and misnception should be curbed by the werful bulldozer of fraternity and otherhood. Success entails more ities and responsibilities; and we e confident "The Indian" has strong uscles to shoulder them, coming to the expectation of the readers d critics alike.

The past has vanished into oblivion, ving behind a lot of experience lminating into strength and conence. The present is slipping rough our fingers, and we are trying catch and make use of it. The ture is casting a ray of hope and pectation mixed with rays of misings. Let us face tomorrow with courage acquired from the exrience of countless yesterdays. Let all join and extend a hand of cooperation and goodwill to "THE INDIAN" and make its mission a success .... IN THE WORLD OF TOMORROW.

To conclude this fitting tribute to "THE INDIAN", I have composed the following verse:

"The Indian" calls all Indians
Unite .... do not fight
Be just and act right
Under the Divine Light
Keep the goal within sight.

Parshotam Bathija.

Hong Kong

Pen Friend Wanted

Sir,

I wish to make contacts with pen friends of both sexes. Those who wish to contact me please write to my address.

Thanking you,

S. A. Noor Mohamed,
P. B. 402,
Dubai—U.A.R.
Arabian Gulf.

At least 6,000 Indians in HK

Sir,

Your correspondent Mr Edward S. C. Lau (S.C.M.P. June 20) asked a number of questions about the admission of citizens of India to Hong Kong.

Before September 8, 1969, holders of Commonwealth passports (including Indian nationals) were not required to obtain visas to enter Hong Kong for any purpose and were normally granted unconditional entry.

Since that date Commonwealth citizens have been able to enter Hong Kong as visitors, for periods of up to three months, without visas subject to certain conditions.

Commonwealth citizens and aliens wishing to enter Hong Kong for employment, education, or residence are required to obtain visas. Applications from Indian nationals are considered in exactly the same way as those from citizens of other countries.

With regard to immigrants who commit offences under the Immigration Ordinance, action is taken in cases which come to my attention, irrespective of the nationality or citizenship of the offender.

It is very difficult for me to estimate accurately the number of Indians living in Hong Kong because, as I said above, control on the entry of Commonwealth citizens began only in 1969, and many thousands entered before that date.

However there are about six thousand long-term Indian residents currently known to me. In addition, there may be a considerable number of visitors here at any time: over 16,000 Indians visited Hong Kong during 1972.

It is entirely the prerogative of the Indian Government to decide the policy governing the entry of foreigners to work in India, and I am not at liberty to comment on it.

W. E. Collard
Director of Immigration
(courtesy SCMP, Hong Kong)

Jai Hind College

Sir,—The Jai Hind College and Basantsing Institute of Science, Bombay, is celebrating its silver jubilee this year. To commemorate the occasion, it is proposed to bring out a souvenir volume which, apart from outlining its history and achievements, will contain a "who's who" of past students. For this purpose, may I, through your esteemed columns request the past students to get in touch with me as soon as possible?

I would mention here that it is also proposed to form an alumni association and associate the old students of the college with the silver jubilee celebrations as extensively as possible.

T. G. Khubchandani,
Principal.

Bombay,

NUMBER OF OVERSEAS INDIANS

We produce below a table giving estimates of the number of the people of Indian origin in various countries of the world. The Table has been compiled by Mr Sanil Gungadin, a student from Papua. All figures have been taken from the Demographic Year Books of the United Nations. The editors take no responsibility for the accuracy of data. (Editors)

Mr Sanil Gung

Country	No. of Indians	Year	Country	No. of Indians
EUROPE				
United Kingdom	500,000	1971	France	25,000
Italy	1,000	1972	Sweden	1,000
Switzerland	200	1972	W. Germany	2,000
Belgium	1,000	1972	Denmark	1,006
Austria	1,000	1972	Greece	1,000
Gibraltar	1,000	1968	Spain	1,000
Malta & Cozo	1,000	1969		
SOUTH W. ASIA				
Aden	15,817	1955	Bahrein	4,493
Iraq	1,848	1962	Iran	2,000
Kuwait	5,000	1968	Dubai	2,000
SOUTH E. ASIA				
Burma	305,000	1957	Guam	2,507
Brunei	3,000	1968	Malaysia	1,000.000
Singapore	295,000	1962	Thailand	60,000
Indonesia	4,000	1959	Phillippine	2,500
Hong Kong	18,000	1971	Japan	2,002
Cambodia	1,006	1959	Laos	2,000
South Vietnam	5,577	1960		
SOUTH ASIA				
Ceylon	1,021,560	1963	Afghanistan	7,000
Nepal	628,000	1959	Bhutan	15,000
Sikkim	10,000	1969		

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International	**T. G. Raj**
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- *Law and Government policies*
- *Politics and current affairs*
- *Inter-community relations*

Overseas Indians and their organisations, clubs and associations are invited to send articles, news reports on activities, stories and photographs to the Editor for publication. Letters to the Editor are also welcome. Latest publications for book reviews are accepted.

The views expressed are those of the contributors concerned and do not necessarily reflect our editorial policy. The publisher accepts no responsibility for the editorial decisions taken.

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published by:
THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG

printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

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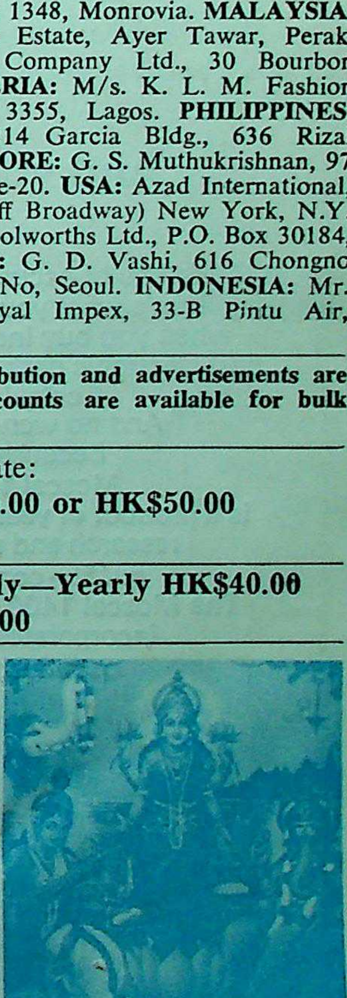

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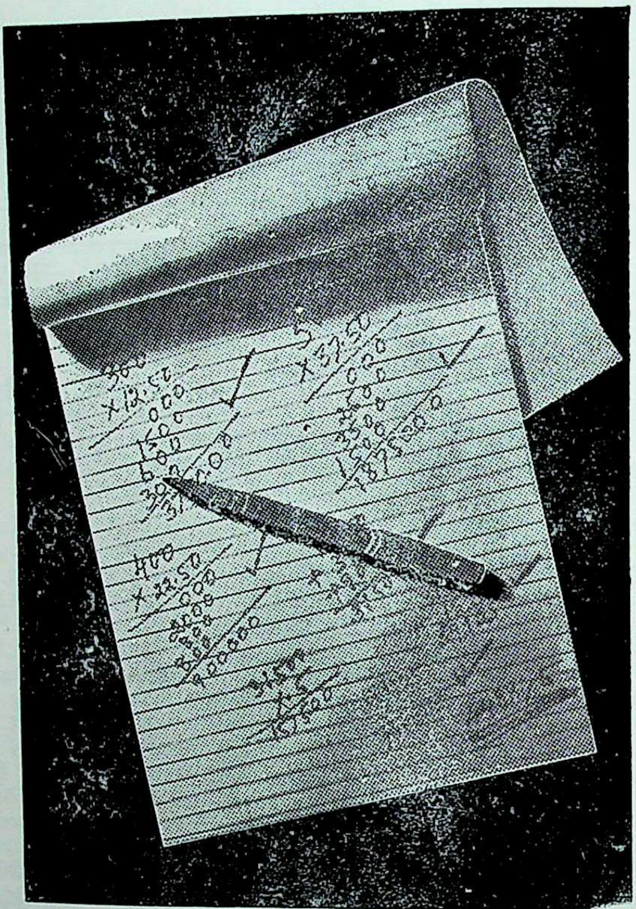

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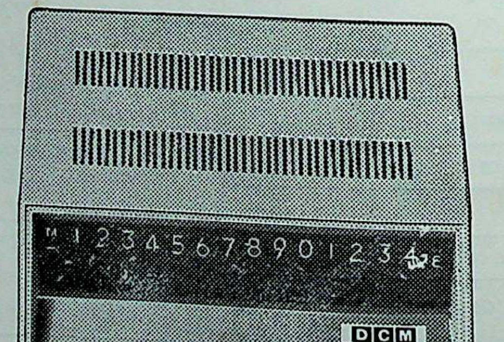

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Samaiki

SORROW IN JOY

October is usually the month of festivities for Indians. Dussera Diwali, Birthdays and Diwali Balls keep gay spirits going throughout the month.

This October turned out to be a nightmare for us here. Our BK passed away and this caused great sorrow and grief for all of us.

To my mind, the best tribute one can offer to a great man of action is to do something in which he believed and toward that he worked for.

BK compiled first Directory of Indian Firms in Hongkong and Kowloon which is published by The Indian every year. He was working on a consolidated directory of Indian firms in the South East Asia. Towards the end of year, this directory will be brought out in BK's memory and as a tribute to him. The directory will include firm names, their addresses and telephone numbers and names of their proprietors/partners in 12 countries of this region, namely Ceylon, Hongkong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos/Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Viet Nam. The directory will also include important data, useful information and many other features about the region.

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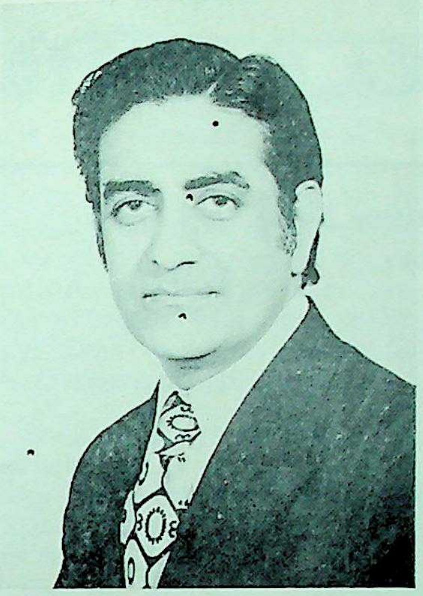
SPOTLIGHT

TITAN PASSES AWAY

An outstanding Overseas Indian who rose to fame by his nature and determination, and acquired popularity everywhere passed away last month. The end came suddenly and unexpectedly. He finished his day's work, left office but could never reach home. Palpitation of heart on way home, pause for rest and he was gone. Even in his death, he did not give trouble to anyone. An unprecedented number of Indians turned up for his funeral—rich, poor, businessmen, professionals — all were there to say good bye to the friend. He was only 49.



Bhagwan K. Motwani

BK was a shrewd businessman with a deep sense of social committment. He was ambitious but not in ordinary way. He was interested in success and money but not for personal sake. He felt at home in any kind of work, an executive chair in a plush office or behind the counter in a retail store, or as a salesman. There was dignity and style in everything that BK did. He dressed with meticulous care. He was a strict vegetarian, non smoker and non drinker though he would continuously experiment with food and enjoyed concothing new drinks.

BK—as he was known to his friends belonged to the pioneering generation of Indians who left the safe and secure shores of India in search of great challenges abroad. BK came out of India in 1949 and went around the world. He liked the Far East, explored the region thoroughly, saw a great potential in Hongkong and settled down. Hongkong was then a poor, underdeveloped, refugee laden place. There were only about two dozen Indian firms in the Colony. BK saw this and saw far ahead. He had the foresight to conclude that Hongkong will grow to unmatched heights. He was proved right. His confidence in Hongkong was never shaken. In 1967 riots, when most people felt shaky, BK made substantial investments in real estate and encouraged his friends to do so. In 1949, he set up his first firm which today is a multi-country enterprise called B. Dialdas & Co. Ltd. Four year's later he established the Style Corporation which is a leading export house in the Colony. A few year's after that, he also promoted a retail store. BK's interest in India never faded. As he prospered he felt more for India. He was engaged in a housing project and at the time of his death was putting up an export oriented factory in India. He hoped to shift his base to India later during the year.

His music went with him everywhere. What made him so popular? Soft spoken and of easy manners, BK had genuine interest in people and saw them as persons. He had unbound patience and would not be excited under any circumstances. The first meeting with him often resulted in life long contacts. He had time for everyone and was never busy for a visitor who might drop in unannounced. He remembered names and faces and was able to connect name with face, years after meeting a person. He took sides in internal conflict of the Indian community but this did not affect his personal relationship with anyone.

'The Indian' was a cherished baby of BK. He promoted the idea, helped in starting it, and took responsibility for its management. The Indian accompanied him every where. His business meetings often opened with the presentation of a copy of the magazine and a request for advertisement or subscription.

He came out of India as a young and unknown boy. He left for his heavenly abode as a person of status and popularity and with a large circle of friends. All these years, he lived the life of a *Karma Yogi*—a true Hindu that he was. In his death, the Overseas Indians have lost a great friend and they are left with a void that is difficult to fill.

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

BK passed away

The INDIAN office is sad. Soft spoken, mild mannered and untiring person — Bhagwan Motwani — is no longer with us. He passed away quietly. Death came without warning and he was gone within a few minutes.

BK—as he was known to friends — was associated with the INDIAN from its inception. He was one of its promoters and sustainers during the most difficult days. He was responsible for the business aspects of our monthly and it was no easy task. He never lost nerve and never let colleagues know the difficulties he was going through. Problems remained his own, credit he passed on to others. He carried copies of the magazine with him always and seldom missed an opportuniy to push it for promotion.

He was a colleague every one will like to have. He was a friend hat all of us were proud of. He was a source of strength to us and brought a breeze of cheer every ime he entered office.

His colleagues at INDIAN ffice as well as our correspondents all over the world pay homge to the memory of a very valuble colleague and a very dear riend who is with us no more. We re-dedicate ourselves to work or the ideals that BK sought for he magazine.

Work for New Year

Diwali marks the beginning of new year for most Overseas ndians and we send our greetings and Happy Diwali to all our readers, subscribers, advertisers & well wishers. Diwali is also the ocassion for most of us to take stock of our progress during the last one year and to plan, howsoever vaguely, for the coming year. Shall we do this exercise for the Overseas Indian communities!

Look at Africa first. Overseas Indians had a tough time there. They were brutally thrown out of Uganda and only a few dozens are left behind in the country. Kenya is gradually tightening screws, several hundred Asians have lost their work permits and many hundred more are going to lose theirs within next few months. The exodous is on. South Africa is brutal as ever. The number of Indians in Ghana, Nigeria, Somalia, Zambia, Tanzania and Ethiopia decreased during the year and barring a few arrests due to alleged irregularities in Nigeria, it was a quiet period. Apart from the 'maid sensation' in the Indian papers, the position of Indians in the Middle East and Iran remained unchanged. Indians in Hong Kong suffered heavily in the stock market crash but they are well on the way to recovery. Indians in Hong Kong and Japan came in conflict with the local Indian diplomats but it has all been resolved. In rest of the S. East Asia and the Far East, the goings remained good and as usual. In America and Australia, relatively more Indians have obtained 'national status' this year than the previous year. The position was reverse in Canada.

Two major events of the year were (a) the formation of a Pan African Conference of Indians and the holding of a world conference of Arya Samaj in Mauritius and (b) the concerted efforts by the INDIAN magazine to invite attention of the community leaders to common problems of Indians residing in different countries.

In the forthcoming year, the Indians in the Pan African region should consolidate the newly created organisation. Today, the Swamiji is the principal figure behind it. But the organisation must set up its secretariat, employ paid professional staff, raise funds to meet expenses and start issuing a magazine or bulletin. This will lead to stability and generate self propelling momentum in the organisation.

In the South East Asia and the Far East, the Indian communities in different countries of the region should promote a Council of Overseas Indians in the region with the objective of promoting religious, cultural and social interests of the community. Since many Indians have continuing interests in India, an office of the Council should be set up at New Delhi to liaise with the Indian authorities on their behalf.

A move should be made in this regard during winter months. A preparatory meeting of selected leaders should be called at Hong Kong to draft a blue print of the Council, to estimate financial requirements and to identify work for the New Delhi office. This should be followed by a larger meeting to be held at Bangkok to adopt the proposed programme of the preparatory committee. The officials should be appointed at this meeting and work started in right earnest.

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DIWALI

Time for family re-unions

Sometime back the INDIAN eported in its Spotlight column about an Overseas Indian in Latin America. He had said that the Diwali was a yearly occasion for family reunions. Sons and daughters were married and live n their own households and ravelled a great deal. But everyone returned from wherever he/she was to the father's house for Diwali re-union. Diwali was a one-time-together a year for them.

In many Indian homes, family reunions on Diwali were practised almost religously. At least it was so during my childhood. Everybody came back home, from school and college hostels, and from work at far away places. We played together, worshipped ogether, stuffed ourselves with ood and sweets and after a few days everyone went away his or her own way, invigourated by the feeling of love and security hat emanates from unions and with promises to meet next year.

Times have changed now Forces that break families are tronger than those that keep hem together. We have become more mobile and live long dis- ances apart. Many of us have ur own social circles that could ot be absented from. Diwali for most of us is no longer an occa- on for re-unions though we wish to be so.

Where there is a will there is a ay. Diwali can be an occasion or family re-unions, though the orm and style may differ. It hould not be difficult for bro- hers and sisters living in one own to be together one night of he nights. One could also adjust avel to suit the family reunion. n days of uncertainty and in- ecurity, these re-unions should e a source of great strength and ecurity. We hope there are many more like our friend from Latin America and that their number will grow. Meanwhile Happy Diwali, Best of everything to you all from the INDIAN.

HONG KONG

Anti - corruption Commission

Hongkong has commenced a bold experiment that will be watched with interest all over the world, particularly in Asia. The Governor has appointed a high power anti-corruption Commission to deal with the problem of corruption and graft in the Colony. The Commission is headed by a very senior and competent officer who is supported by an equally competent operational chief.

Corruption and graft is not a monopoly of any single community. Some of the more affluent and well governed countries of the West have thrown up sensational scandals recently. But graft seems to be a way of life in Asia. Some social scientists argue that the graft is an inevitable off shoot of poverty and scarcity. Low paid civil servants controlling scarce commodities for which there is big demand are easily tempted to oblige unscrupulous elements for a consideration. While others feel that graft, squeeze, tea money etc. are a part of the cultural system of a society and it is likely to continue even under conditions of affluency all around. This would mean that even a straight forward and honest officer from the west, on being posted to Hongkong will gradually take on local norms of work relationship and social gradation, and become a part of the graft system. The new experiment in Hongkong is bound to throw up enough light on the issue and we hope that social scientists will be associated with the work of the Commission to study this aspect. The Hongkong experiment has a great relevance to the rest of Asia and it will be watched with interest.

We extend our full support to Mr. Jack Cater, head of the Commission and wish him success in this most difficult task.

HOW URGENT IS URGENT

We wrote several letters to a government office and received no reply. Ultimately we sought personal interview with the Director concerned.

We: **Sir, we sent you many letters and got no reply. The last one was marked 'Urgent'. Still no reply. Can we have your answer now.**

Dir.: **Of course. (Rings for his P.A.)**

Dir.: **There was an urgent letter from these gentlemen. Bring the letter (P.A. went out and returned with a bundle of letters).**

Dir.: **I asked you to bring 'Urgent' letter.**

P.A.: **Sir, all of them are urgent.**

Dir.: **Why have you not attended to them.**

P.A.: **Sir, you said to keep them pending. If a letter was really urgent, it will be attended to anyway after other files have been cleared.**

vive la différence!

During a spirited discussion in Paris over the equality of rights for women, a supporter of the women's rights was provoked to ask: What is the difference between a man and a woman? Promptly a Frenchman burst out: **"Vive la Différence"!**

We, in Bank of India, also join the Frenchman in saying, "Vive la Différence!" But what we refer to is the difference between a bank and a bank—difference in recruitment and training of staff; difference in attitude towards the customers; therefore, difference in efficiency and courtesy.

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Holiday & Travel

A visit to Kashmir

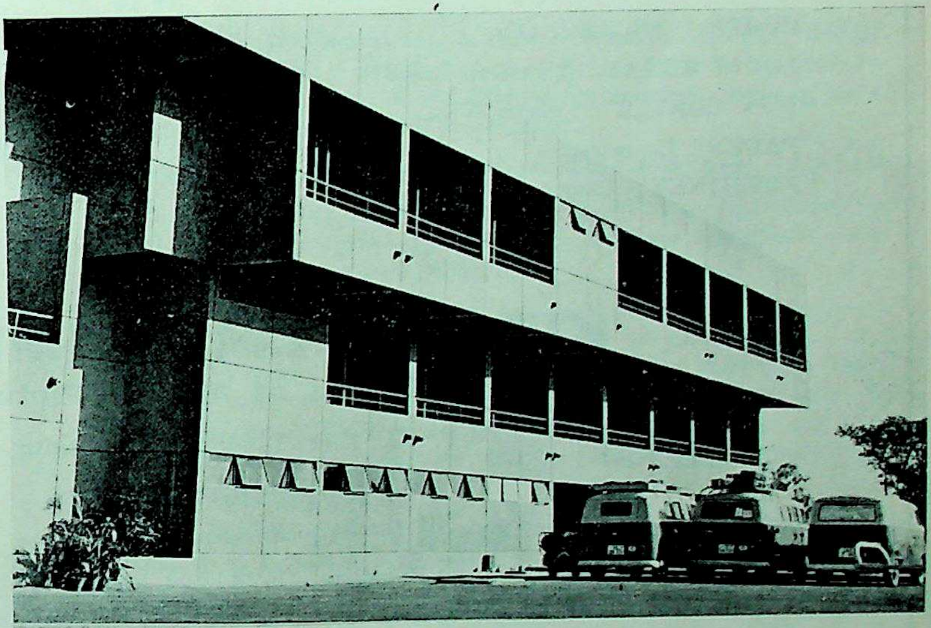
In Srinagar's Shalimar Gardens a *bulbul,* perched on the restaurant's wooden parapet, looks into your eyes as if longing to share your tea. At Banihal (on the way to Srinagar from Delhi), nymphish cloudlets peck at the snow-covered mountain peaks like love-birds. While sailing in a *shikara* in the tranquil waters of the Dal Lake, a drizzle provides you with soft, solemn background music; a chilly breeze tickles your spirits—just in case they are frozen. Kashmir is beautiful.

by

S. Venkat Narayan

Till recently it took you two days to get to Kashmir from Delhi by train. Now that the ail link is extended upto Jammu, ou can make it in a day: a 14-our train journey from Delhi to ammu, plus a ten-hour bus ride rom there to Srinagar, the apital of Kashmir. By plane, ou can get there in two hours rom Delhi.

Srinagar: My tonga passes hrough Amira Kadal (Rich Man's Bridge). Jhelum is dirty. Empty, ugly house boats are moored along its banks, like a erd of dead goats. How can ou live in them? you wonder. No, no, it's because of the recent ains that the water is dirty, my ellow passenger (a Kashmiri) xplains.



This is the recently opened hotel in Jammu, run by the India Tourism Development Corporation.

Skiing at Gulmarg in Kashmir

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After a brief rest in my hotel room, I go out. I buy some strawberries and cherries and, munching them, walk towards the lake's boulevards in search of customers. They flock to you like flies. They nearly come to you for showing around in their blows in their enthusiasm to grab *shikaras*.

Under a bunch of trees in the lake, I see a young Kashmiri with his wife and child in a boat. The sun has just called it a day, behind the mountains. Dusk, drizzle, breeze. The wife plucks from the water things that look like cauliflowers. The child watches her wonder-eyed. The young man is fishing.

Beautifully decorated houseboats with exotic names float in the lake—Apollo, Jacquelene, Paris, Firdous, Mona Lisa, Tashkent, Honeymoon and so on. But they are empty, most of them. It's early May. Oarsemen wait for customers, measuring their time sipping tea, smoking *hookah* and warming themselves up with *kangris* (eathern bowls with red hot coals carried to keep oneself warm).

Gulmarg. Poplars, stiff and soldier-like, never stooping, (kind of) present you with a guard of honour all along the way. Green pastures, little brooks, cattle grazing, supervised by little, apple-cheeked, shepherdesses.

Tangmarg. I hire a raincoat and snowboots. Horseride five km up the steep, mud-ridden mountains. Firdous, the chap whose horse I ride, is a very alkative fellow. The firs, poplars, the streams, the snow and the incense-like clouds take my breath away. It proves to be a hard task, enjoying the cenery without falling off the horse as he climbs up those treacherous cliffs. Then there is his rascal to listen to. He has a knack of figuring out when exactly you're nervous.

"Don't worry, *saab*," he wants o lend you some guts. "I giving my life for your life. Sonnie oy, goody boy. Ees he good? Vairy good, no?" Vairy, vairy gooood, I assure him. His unclean face lights up with a smile. "*Saab*, I shmoking shigarets." I oblige him with a kingsize Wills Filter. He is happy. He tells me about a Delhi girl who swore she was madly in love with him.

She rode his horse the previous summer and almost hugged him as he helped her mount the animal. "*Saab*, she shaying me, "Firdous, you are handshom . I love you. You coming Dilli with me. I giving you beeetipul dresh. We marrying. OK?' "He puffs at the cigarette vigorously. "But I shaying no, *saab*. If I going Dilil who giving *khana* to my mother? . . . . ' And the girl just wouldn't see his point. Instead, she wept and wept, so he tells me.

Khilanmarg. I walk in the snow. Crushing the coarse, crinkling snow with borrowed boots makes you feel funny. I have some tea at the Sardarji's tent. I notice he is also selling omelettes and rum. I decide

Holiday in Kashmir

Some Tips To Visitors

There are two tourist seasons in Kashmir. The summer season begins on May 15 and lasts till November, the peak period being May 15-July 15. The winter season begins on December 15 and lasts till December.

Srinagar is well connected by Indian Airlines flights with places all over the country. There are two flights between Delhi and Srinagar every day. The fare is Rs 230. You can also fly to Srinagar from Bombay (fare Rs 528), Calcutta (Rs 573), and Madras (Rs 697),. In summer, Indian Airlines normally introduces daily and direct Boeing flights between Delhi and Srinagar.

There are quite a few good hotels. Many visitors to Kashmir like to live in houseboats in Srinagar's Dal Lake. There are four categories of them. The cheapest is called D category and costs Rs 25 a day. A category is the best, costing Rs 90 a day per couple. B is Rs 70 and C Rs 45.

The State Government runs a tourist reception centre in Srinagar. A retiring room with a double bed costs Rs 25. There are rooms for Rs 18 a day, too. Write to the Director of Tourism, Srinagar, about a month in advance asking for reservations.

Whether you go in summer or winter, woollen clothings are a must.

The Oberois run a luxurious hotel in Srinagar, just facing the Dal Lake. There are airconditioned cottages available with kitchenettes in Gulmarg and Pahalgam.

If you are young and are on a voyage of discovery and can rough it up, here's how you can make it to Kashmir the cheapest way. Get to Jammu by train first. There are two direct trains leaving for Delhi for Jammu every evening. The 14-hour overnight journey costs Rs 16.75, third class. There is a direct train between Jammu and Calcutta, Sealdah Express (fare: Rs 46.15). There may be one from Bombay pretty soon.

From Jammu, plenty of buses are available to take you to Srinagar. The fare is Rs 11 and it takes about 10 hours.

There are at least a dozen youth hostels, dormitories and camping sites scattered all over the Valley at major tourist spots. Young people can stay in them by paying a rupee a day. Bedding is available and costs between Rs 3 and Rs 6.

Kashmir is a great place for lovers of nonvegetarian food.

not to sit in a sledge. I roam about in the snow, watching the streams run down the mountains, restless and intriguing. Where are they going, these streams, kissing the rocks and the water-curds? The sun is out and it's raining, too.

Three hours of playing about in the snow tires me out. Returning from Khilanmarg, I stop at Gulmarg's Tourist Hotel for some more tea. The view from here is magnificent. The lush green carpets of grass with mushrooms of cottages strewn about, the firs, the snow, the mountains and the sky. It's too grand, too grand, too beautiful, almost suffocating ....

Fodor's Guide claims that three days are enough to *do* Kashmir. (Back in the seventh century, it took two years for Hiuen Tsiang to do it). I choose to make it in a week because I didn't take a plane. If you take that 59-rupee and 35-minute hop from Jammu to Srinagar, you wouldn't really know how much you miss. Half the fun of holidaying in Kashmir lies in making the journey by road. It is entirely a different matter if you are on a brief visit to India and so, are short of time.

Tomorrow Pahalgam, and Wular Lake the day after. But it's raining like mad, and I can't move out of my hotel. The next morning, the road outside my hotel is a vast lake. It rains the whole day. Radio Kashmir says the Jhelum is rising, two kids are washed out in the floods, thousands rendered homeless. The National Highway is closed, and no flights either. Kashmir is cut off from the rest of the world!

So you are stranded in a strange and beautiful place. Confined to bed. Nothing much to do except for writing poems for the girl you are in love with. I decide to forget about Pahalgam and the rest and book my seat in the six o'clock bus the morning after. But I must see a bit of Srinagar before I go away.

Shalimar Gardens. Doesn't the fellow sitting alone and brooding in a corner of the restaurant resemble Omar Sharif in *Doctor Zhivago?* I like Omar Sharif and also chaps who look like him. This one turns out to be a likeable soul. A Kashmiri Hindu, he is a teacher. Doesn't know how many years ago his ancestors migrated here from North India.

Are there any intellectuals in Srinagar? Quite a few. They meet at the Indian Coffee House. Pity I haven't the time to go there.

Nishat Bagh. Zhivago goes with me. Not as many flowers here as in Ooty's Botanical Gardens. Nor as big, either. But the *chinars* are grand. "Iran is the only other place in the world where they've got these trees," Zhivago tells me. "The Moghuls had brought them here and you must see them in winter." He is obviously proud of them.

Evening descends. On the way to my hotel room, I see a little girl picking rotten to off the road. The ditche slush. Half the city is dark. Srinagar is not a ve pealing city. One must this, at least for the sake of places like Gulmarg and marg.

Handsome girls glide Lal Chowk, the city's main ping centre. If only they up their hair, threw away rags of clothes and washed selves with a bit of soap! sad and sorry. Kashmir of natural beauty but i exactly rolling in material When visiting Kashmir for day one must remember th should not feel bad ab Poverty is a fact of life in mir, just as any other pl India today. Just look o those smiling faces and spots Nature has endow with. Which is why it's the Switzerland of Asia!

ONE WAY OF SELLING

An Overseas Indian engaged in a newly set up industry in a No Indian State has sent the following report.

"I was informed that the Minister concerned likes to meet industrialists in town to understand their problems. I went to meeting alongwith my liaison officer. About 80 persons had assem in the hall. We waited for the Minister for over 40 minutes in burn heat. First came a peon loaded with neatly packed parcels that we deposited near the table. Then came two assistants followed by Director and the Minister.

The Minister was welcomed and thanked for sparing time to us. Then he rose to speak. He said that he had a very special nouncement to make. In fact the cause of his late arrival was announcement itself. Our necks craned forward in anticipa And then the minister said that he had published a new Hindi tra tion of Bhagwad Gita. As he knew that we would like to own book, he had brought copies with him (looked at parcels) fresh fr the press. And as we were very special persons, "I have autogra them. Please pay Rs 5 each and collect your copies."

After this, the minister sat down. I suggested to my colle that we slip out. "Oh no, you can't, we have signed our presence the sheet of paper that was passed around and our absence woul noticed."

We returned to office, poorer by loss of 3 hours, sick from but fortified with 2 copies of Gita—autographed by the Minister self.

Reader's Ask

Citizenship of United Kingdom: What it means

The Community Relations Commission has recently published a very useful and comprehensive booklet which outlines the qualifications and procedures required to become a citizen of the United Kingdom by registration or naturalisation. It also describes the effect of registration on a Commonwealth citizen's relationship with his country of origin.

The Foreword by the Chairman of the Commission, Mr Mark Bonham Carter, emphasises that the booklet does not attempt to advise anyone whether or not to become a UK citizen: it simply sets out the consequences of registration on the basis of information received from various sources, including the High Commissions of the countries concerned.

The booklet, copies of which are available from the Commission, 15/16 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9HX, sets out the eligibility and requirements for citizenship in an easy-to-read question and answer format. It deals with such queries as 'who is now eligible for registration as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies?', who may register as a citizen as of right, 'what are the consequences of citizenship?' etc.

It then goes on to list the consequences of citizenship in individual Commonwealth countries. We reproduce below the section on India.

CITIZENSHIP

If a citizen of India becomes registered as a citizen of the UK and Colonies:

1. What is the effect on his citizenship of India? Does he automatically lose it?

   Under Section 9 of the Citizenship Act, if a citizen of India acquires citizenship of the UK and Colonies, he would lose his Indian citizenship.

2. What provision, if any, is there for dual citizenship?

   There is no provision for dual citizenship.

3. Can he re-enter India freely, or does he need a visa or other entry permit?

   Under Section 11 of the said Act, every person who is a citizen of a Commonwealth country (which includes the UK) has the status of a Commonwealth citizen in India. He does not need a visa to enter this country.

4. On re-entry is he free to work in India, or does he need a permit?

   There would not be any need for him to obtain a work permit in order to work in India.

5. What rights, if any, does he lose over money or property in India?

   He does not lose any rights or money or property in India but repatriation of any of these would have to comply with the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

INCOME IN INDIA

6. If he has income or assets in India, is his tax position there affected?

   Regarding his income in India, the levy of income-tax is to be looked at from the point of view whether he is a resident, non-resident or a person not ordinarily resident in India. If he is a non-resident, all income from whatever source derived which (a) is received or deemed to be received in India in the previous year by or on behalf of such person or (b) accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise to him in India during the previous year, is liable to Indian income-tax law.

   A person is said to be not ordinarily resident in India in any previous year if such person is an individual who has not been resident in India in nine out of ten years preceding that year or has not, during the seven *years preceding that year, been in India for a period amounting in all to 730 days. In the case of such a person, the income that acrues or arises to him outside India would not be taxed unless it is derived from a business controlled in or a profession set up in India.*

A person is said to be resident in India if he is in India in the previous year for a period amounting in all to 182 days or more or maintains a dwelling place in India for the said period and has been in India for 30 days or more in that year or has not within the four years preceding that year been in India for 365 days or more in all, or had been in India for a period amounting in all to 60 days or more in that year.

In the case of a resident, all income from whatever sources received in India, accrued to him in India, or accrued outside India, is taxable.

7. What is the effect on the nationality of his wife, children and other dependants who were born in India if they i) now live in the UK? ii) now live in India?

   Indian citizenship is lost by acquisition of foreign citizenship as has been stated above. It is a question of English law whether the wife will automatically acquire English citizenship by the husband acquiring it.

8. If he has a child born in the UK, will that child become a citizen of India by birth?

   The children born in the UK of Indians who have acquired British citizenship would be British citizens depending upon English law. If on acquiring majority they wish to acquire Indian citizenship, they have to make an application for registration as such to the Indian High Commission in the UK.

9. Will he suffer any substantial disadvantages not dealt with above?

   Generally not, but the question is far too wide to answer.

Note: The above answers are meant only for the purpose for which the queries have been addressed. They are not intended as comprehensive answers or legal opinions on specific problems.

Courtesy: India Weekly, London.

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From Filmland

Ray's new film wins top award in Berlin

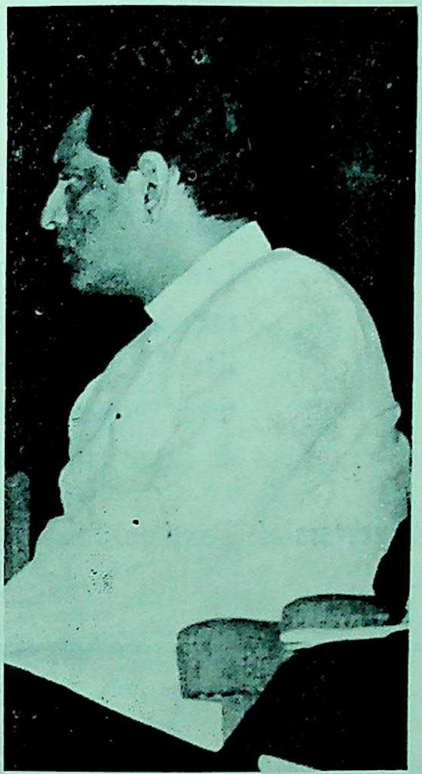
Satyajit Ray's film "Ashani Sanket" ("Distant Thunder") was awarded the Golden Bear as the best movie in this year's Berlin Film Festival on July 3.

Reviewing the film in the "Guardian", Mr Richard Roud said:

'However bad the main competitive festival in Berlin is—and this year is no exception—one can usually count on a new film by Satyajit Ray to lift the spirits. And this year obeyed that rule as well.

It is becoming increasingly clear with each passing year that Ray has entered on a new phase in his career. Gone forever are the forays into Calcutta's Anglo-Indian intelligentsia: gone are the charms of "Days and Nights in the Forest." The iron has entered into his soul, and with "The Adversary," "Company Limited," and this year's "Dis- ant Thunder," he has come to grips with the seemingly in- uperable alarmingly astronomical problems of the subcontinent.

"Distant Thunder" is set in 942—Singapore has fallen and Burma is about to go. To the villagers in a remote part of Bengal, it all seems far away. But soon the price of rice begins o mount: kerosene is no longer available. At first this doesn't ffect the hero of the film or his wife; they are Brahmins, and he is the priest, doctor, and schoolteacher of the village. But eventually even they are threatened by the growing famine. The cost of a measure of rice goes from 6 rupees to 8; then to 10, 20 and then there is just no more rice to be had.



Satyajit Ray

But some people do have rice —they have hoarded it; the villagers catch on, and attack the local grain merchant. Brahmin Ganga slowly begins to grasp what is happening, to understand that he must alter his views, must change his life.

This raising of consciousness is handled by Ray with all his usual mixture of subtlety and strength; this is his second film in colour, and the brilliance of his effect—a girl in a red sari against the green of tall weaving grass, the pair of orange butterflies that punctuate the film—these only serve to intensify the contrast between the beauty of the landscape and the horror of what is happening.

That horror is consistently understated. When Moti, the little untouchable girl, dies of hunger at Ganga's doorstep, it is presented almost casually. We almost do not even notice the other girl, hovering patiently in the bushes. Ganga's wife has given Moti all she has —a little bundle of vegetable roots, but Moti is too far gone to eat them. When she gives up the ghost, suddenly the little girl quietly steps forward and takes the bundle of roots she has been waiting for.

And when the famine reaches epidemic proportions and the old Brahmin from the next village arrives with his family, Ganga simply says: well, before we were two, now we will be ten. But as the old man's family advances, we see that they are not eight, but an army which gradually fills the screen. And then a final title flashes on the screen: in the 1943 famine, five million people died.

Five million people—who can feel anything for the death of five million?—the number is beyond human empathy: but because of the way Ray leads up to it, the statistic becomes overwhelmingly real.'

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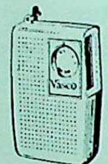
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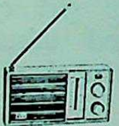
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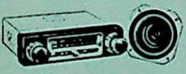
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Sharmila Tagore Interviewed

The more you know Sharmila Tagore, the less you know her! The surface is a smooth, well-groomed, even sexy-sweet-at-times countenance, made innocent by a deep dimple. But there is certainly an undercurrent of hard calculation, measuring-up, looking for the inner side of matters, beneath that softly feminine demureness.

You meet that undercurrent by chance, when La Tagore is not aware that she is being sized up as well; when she says she is something which she most definitely is not. Look at her fabulous career: not many hit-films. But, somehow, she is absolutely positive that the films may be forgotten, but her role remains in memory.

"Yes. I've been in films for longer than people would like to imagine. My career has had its ups and down but I have managed to remain steady. Neither my marriage nor the birth of my child has unsettled it." For several years, before she married Pataudi—she calls him Tiger . . . . she was the reigning oomph-girl. And after, she settled down to more sophisticated roles and likewise image.

It was a gradual switch from the pin-up girls after "Kashmir Ki Kali", her first Hindi film, to the heavy "Amar Prem" image. "But I promise, marriage has nothing to do with the more sober presentation. I have taken large doses of glamour in the recent 'Yeh Gulistan Hamara' and 'Daag'." Yes, she has eased herself back into the oomph-and-drama gear, with a decidedly mature accent.

Where is it going to end? Will t keep switching like this?

"It might. Retirement? Never hought about it. I know I shall be in demand till I go on acting. shall get roles as long as I want hem. I certainly won't dissole nto insignificant mother-roles. I mean, look at Nutan, such a great actress—she is still a big name. Today, when she walks into the studios, she still makes news. That is the type of future I would like to have".

Sharmila Tagore

Whatever Rinku wants, Rinku gets, is the steering philosophy of Sharmila, better known as Rinku. So she probably might be another Nutan walking into studios and making things happen as she always does.

The home-maker is nowhere in her. "My home runs quite smoothly, I have a good set of servants and there is no problem that they cannot work out. Mine is supervision only and they come to me only when there is something they cannot handle". This definitely says a lot for her preference to remain a career woman rather than devote her time to house-keeping.

Favourite directors

Who are your favourite producers?

"I like to work with a few who are fast and know what they want. Shakti Samanta my first director-producer in Hindi films, for instance. And of course Satyajit Ray, who gave me my first break in Bengali films: a great director and a good man".

"Ray has this marvellous technique for drawing out talent. He quietly delineates whatever he wants you to do in a certain order and takes what are probably your first impressions. I don't know how it works, but the screen-result is so good, you never knew you were capable of so much! I had recently done 'Seemabaddha' for him and there was this actor who used to get a tremor when his hand had to reach up to his cigarette. He kept on trying and where a lesser director would have cracked up, Ray just went up to him and spoke out another set of directions, and the man was unbelievably good. Ray is too good".

Sharmila, who can be quite catty, was actually waxing over his discoverer. She has this quick-silver temperament, the intelligence of all very moody people and I have heard, a more-than-cordial friendship with her male co-stars, right from her first, Shammi Kapoor, to today's Rajesh Khanna and Shatrughan Sinha.

"Why should I tell you about my heroes, just because you have to turn out an interesting article?" she shot out. That's the most comfortable offensive to avoid the answer, I said to myself.

About those violent outbursts she gets: "I think everyone is moody. Anyone who could afford to, gets away with moods. Me, too .Probably I am more impetuous than others, but I am not extraordinary".

After I met her, I'd heard she had announced her decision to retire. So back again I went, to ask her. With a very composed face, as if nothing had happened, she denied it. Now she's busier than she was, picking up roles which were meant for Dimple Kapadia. Again, what Rinku wants Rinku gets. Fabulous woman, fabulous star.

—Vijaya Irani, writing in 'Hindusthan Standard", Sunday Magazine.

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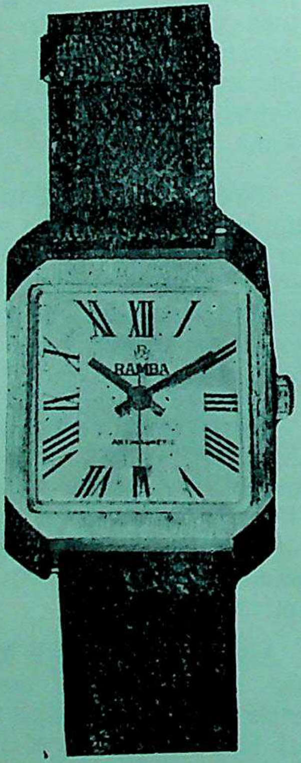

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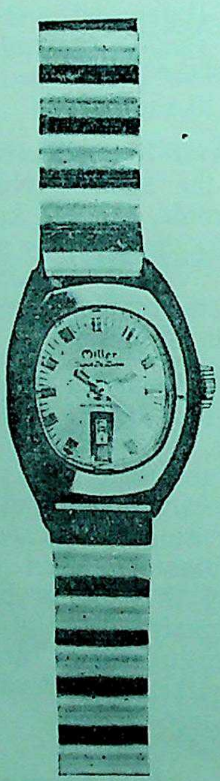

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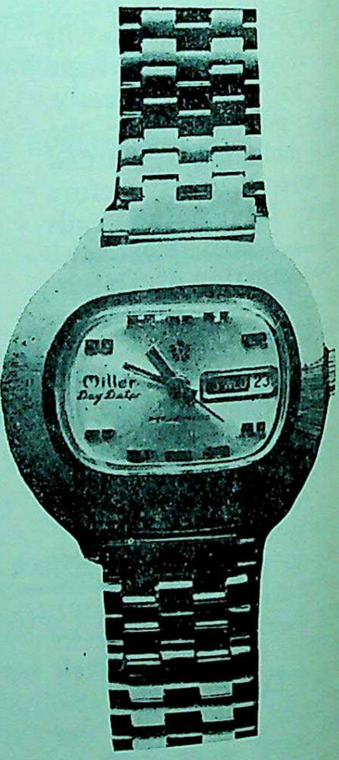

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OWNERS OF BRAND: **RAMBA, HINA, JOYAS, PREFECT, REGENT, & ENFIELD.**

Lata Mangeshkar

THE LATEST Indian celebrity to arrive in Kenya for a two-week safari was Lata Mangeshkar, the most popular singer of India who has dominated popular music for almost three decades.

Lata, who enjoyed a private holiday in July plans to return to Kenya to present some stage shows with her orchestral group to help send Kenyan athletes to Commonwealth Games in New Zealand next year.

Wearing her 'trade mark' a white sari, Lata surprised me at Embakasi Airport when she told me that she started her career as an actress.

"It was back in 1942, when I used to act in films as a very small girl. Then in 1947 I switched to playback singing and have continued ever since,,' she said.

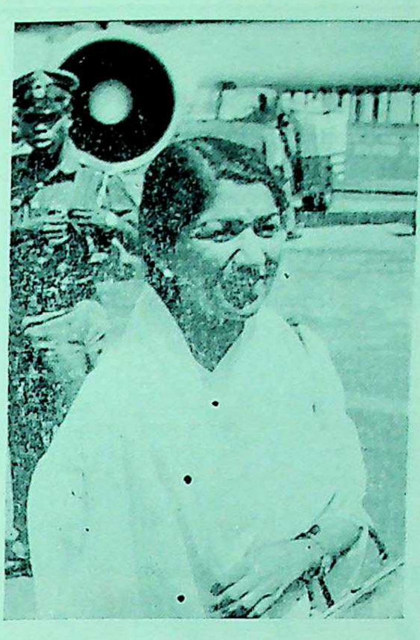
When Lata talks, you have to 'attune' your ears for she has such a low voice that you wonder how she manages to sing all those very high notes. But this velvety smooth voice has received sustained public acclaim for 29 years.

How many languages you sing in? "Seventeen, including Sinhalese, the national language of Sri Lanka."

She has travelled well—all over Europe, Canada and the United States. But this was her first trip to Africa and she was looking forward to her safari equipped with her camera and a telephoto lens. Yes, she admitted being a keen photographer.

"There are many new singers coming up but they do not seem to get as much popularity as they should," she said, "They need to get more work".

About her personal preferences in music she said she did not like 'hot' jazzy music which the new music directors were fond of these days. "But our films are going that way in their sets and stories and so the music too has to follow.



Lata Mangeshkar in Nairobi

Asked about what was the most popular disc she had cut so far, she had difficulty in selecting one but she still opted for 'aayega, aane walla' from the film 'Mahal'. The one song that touched her emotionally was 'Ai mere watan ke logo' she sang soon after the India-China War at a public rally in Delhi and moved the then Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru, to tears.

She did not think that film music was as popular as some 'private' records she had cut. Her 'Meera' bhajans and Gita recordings were more widely acclaimed than many of her film hits.

Recently, she had sung a fisherman's song in Marathi which had captured audiences beyond the confines of this language.

Answering a question on the effect of recently introduced television in India, she said, it had not yet affected the popular demand for films and records but it was in its infancy with only a couple of hours of programme every day. It was still to be seen how it would affect the public taste in the long run.

What touches you most about Lata is her ever-present smile, the kind-heartedness and the humility would is the haalmark of a great artiste.

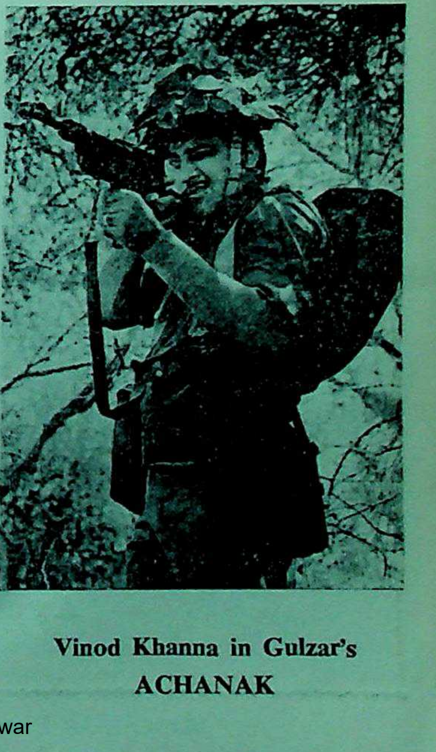
For her first time in her thirty year career, Lata Mangeshkar will sing outside her homeland, India, when she returns to Kenya in September to perform for the Kenya Commonwealth Games Fund.

She is preparing quite seriously for this assignment. Last week, she phoned me to find out about Swahili songs, records and top local tunes. She also expressed a desire to listen to some top local artistes sing in Swahili. She wanted the words of these songs typed out for her to learn them.

During the next six weeks, she will rehearse the lyrics and melodies. And when she jets back, we expect a couple of Swahili items from India's greatest singing star.

Lata will then add yet another language to her repertoire.

This time her voice was strictly for the birds in the bush.



Vinod Khanna in Gulzar's

ACHANAK

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M. G. Ramchandran

"I'm always willing to be unmasked," said M. G. Ramachandran, the South Indian hero and politician as he tried out a Masai mask in a Nairobi curio shop.

Really? I queried.

"Because I have nothing to hide," he quipped through his Tamil interpreter.

MGR was on a jet hopping stopover in Nairobi for a couple of days and during the hectic visit accompanied by his leading lady Latha, producer S. 'Chitra' Krishnaswami and director P. Neelkantan, was worried about the yellow fever injection which has expired on his travel documents.

While awaiting the medical officer's stamp on his certificate, we went for a whirlwind shopping spree in city centre.

He tried a long guord with a shoulder strap and cap. When told that the Masai carry a mixture of blood and milk for nourishment in that guord, he opted to buy it at once.

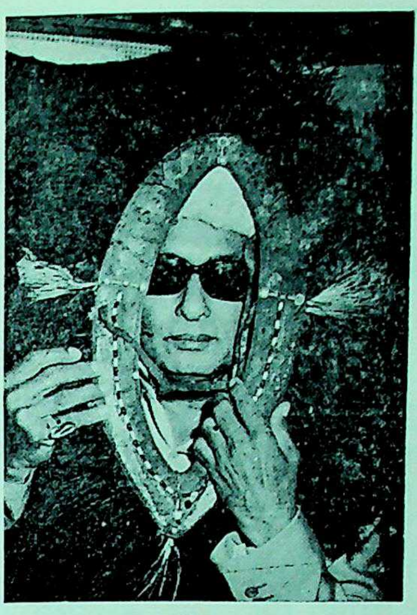
But he asked the shopkeeper if it was really water proof or just a tourist Souvenier because he intended carrying liquids, not blood and milk, in it he assured me.

Latha was busy trying a huge Kikuyu necklace with a four foot long strip of beads dangling from a round neckband.

She was thrilled at the prospect of doing Bharat Natyam in that setup. "I may even try it," she said.

But the Errol Flynn of South India was more interested in weapons of war. Like the double-bladed spear and cowhide shield the Masai warriors use for hunting a lion single handed. "I want these for my room" he said.

He could have found these handy when he got stuck in the Nairobi National Park the evening before. Out lion spotting, their car bogged down in mud as dusk decended on the open plains.



M. G. Ramchandran

Lions, leopards and cheetahs prowled nearby as the party considered the different possibilities of getting themselves out of the tricky situation.

After about half an hour, a passing vehicle gave them a lift. Only a few metres ahead, they saw a huge lion and three cheetahs.

This as their first African adventure-many more of which are expected to be filmed in a new feature 'Raju in East Africa'.

Producer Krishnaswami tried to see Mr Nyoike Njoroge of the Kenya Film Corporation to offer proposals for a joint India—Kenya venture to be filmed in Tamil, Hindi and Swahili.

But he could not get an appointment to see the KFC boss. "I'll be back in October," commented Krishnaswami. "When I scout for locations in Kenya and Tanzania, I'll also have talks with KFC."

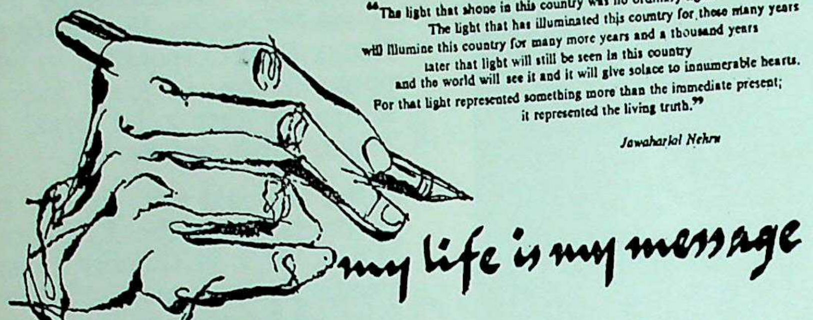
The party left for Moscow from India a few weeks ago where the latest Ramachandran hit "ULAGAM SUTTIYA VALIBAN/Youth Round the World was shown at the Eighth Moscow Film Festival from 10 to 23 July.

Next stop was London and after plane hopping to Frankfurt, Paris, Geneva, Zurich, Rome and Cairo, the party landed in Nairobi.

Shooting for 'Raju in East Africa' is scheduled to begin next January-February. Meanwhile, Ramachandran the founder president of the Anna DMK Party and leader of the opposition in the Madras State Assembly, will have plenty of time to display the African artifacts.

"But not in public rallies," he joked, "The spear or the shield will not be necessary."

Lily Chakravarty in Gulzar's ACHANAK


my life is my message

"The light that shone in this country was no ordinary light.
The light that has illuminated this country for these many years
The light that has illuminated this country for many more years and a thousand years
will illumine this country for many more years and a thousand years
later that light will still be seen in this country
and the world will see it and it will give solace to innumerable hearts.
For that light represented something more than the immediate present;
it represented the living truth."

Jawaharlal Nehru

How Ga

MAHATMA GANDHI

On the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday October 2, we humbly offer our gratitude to the great saint, the great leader, and the awakener of modern India.

The whole world reveres Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi as Mahatma Gandhiji but only a few people know how Gandhiji, was first designated as Mahatma. This honour was conferred on Gandhiji on 27th January 1915 at Gondal in Saurashtra. Gondal was then a small state in Saurashtra.

At an early stage of his 'Satyagraha' movement in South Africa, Gandhiji needed money to finance it. Gaurishanker Pandya, who was acting as Gandhiji's secretary, wrote to his uncle Vaidyaraj Jivram Kalidas Shastri, the then Raj Vaidya to the Royal Family of Gondal. In answer to this call Maharaja of Gondal, Sir Bhagwat Sinhji, sent thirty five thousand rupees to Gandhiji to finance his movement.

When Gandhiji returned to India in 1915, he first went to Poona to pay his respect to his Guru, Gopal Krishna Gokhale. From Poona he went straight to Gondal to thank the Maharaja personally for his timely monetary help. When the Maharaja came to know from his Diwan, Ranchhoddas Vrindavandas Patwariji, that Gandhiji was to visit Gondal, he asked his Diwan and Kalidas Shastri, to receive Gandhiji at the station with all pomp and show. Thousands of people gathered at the station. The state coach drawn by four horses was awaiting there to take Gandhiji and his family to the Maharaja's palace. He was taken in a procession led by the State band and the police followed by people of all communities. Gandhiji, his wife Kasturba and his sons Hiralal, Ramdas, Devdas and his nephew Samaldas Gandhi were in the coach.

The people who were escorting wanted to pull themselves the coach carrying Gandhiji out of extreme regard. They unyoked the horses and started pulling the carriage. But Gandhiji protested and told them that he was there them and not to make them work as anima added that if they persisted in doing so h rather walk the distance than sit in the coa horses were then yoked again.

To witness the procession, the Maha his family members were waiting anxi receive him. As soon as Gandhiji got do the coach the Maharaja went to him and e him warmly.

On the 25th January, 1915 Gandhi courtesy call on the Maharaja. Th officials were there in strength. The r people gave him a reception which laste than three hours.

A public meeting at the Rasashala hashram premises had been announced Jan. 1915, to be presided over by the Diw place was crowded. Gandhiji and his arrived at 10 a.m. and the people stood ceive him. The Maharaja and his fam bers were present.

Diwan Patwarji said: "There is a colour bar against Indians in South Afr his fight against it, Gandhiji has adde glory and dignity of our country. Kastu has lent him good support in this fi people of Gondal are proud to know Maharaja contributed Rs 35,000/- to good cause. This struggle in South A caused a stir in the whole world and by hiji has raised the prestige of India and of Kathiawar. I pray to Lord Krishna long life on Gandhiji and express the wi may stay in our own country and work fo liftment of our own people. Vaidyaraj Ji is a great scholar of Sanskrit and Ayur is most fitting for the people of Gondal th organized this function to present an ad confer the title of 'Mahatma' on Gandhi

Gaurishanker Pranshanker Vyas, worker of Gandhiji in South Africa, and Mohamed and many others also spok occasion.

The Raj Vaidya Jivram Kalidas spoke thus in Gujarati: "May Lord Kr Lord Shiva do good unto you, Jagat Mahatma.

ecame Mahatma - an Episode

"I first express my deep gratefullness to you and to Pujya Kasturba for the great honour accorded to us and especially to Ayurveda by this gracious visit to the Rasashala. I do not wish to deliver a long speech. You are one more glorious link in the galaxy of India's venerable heroes, Raja Harishchandra, Shri Ram, Shri Krishna, Maharana Pratap, Shivaji Maharaj and others. Your life and work are being extolled not only in different quarters of India but in every country of the world. How can I describe them aptly in the course of such a small address? It is in the fitness of things to say that the whole of India is indebted to you. That is why I have been inspired to sing a Sanskrit verse about your high qualities and offer my blessings to you."

Following is the English rendering of the verse:

"Reverential address at the feet of Punyashlok Deshavatsal MAHATMA Shri Mohandas Karamchand Gandhiji and his Dharampatni Shrimati Kasturba.

"A garland of pearls twined in thread adorns the neck. In the same way, your fame, fresh as a Jasmine flower in bloom and spreading delight and pleasure in all quarters, is being acclaimed by learned men. Lord Shankara had burnt Kamdeva with the fire emanating from the third eye on his forehead. Likewise, the light of your diplomacy has bedimmed your enemies' wiles. Your light has eclipsed the enemies in your path. Oh, Gandhiji, Shri Karamchand's son, a new flower blooms in spring; the moonlight adorns the darkest of nights. In the same way your fame has spread in all ten directions . . .

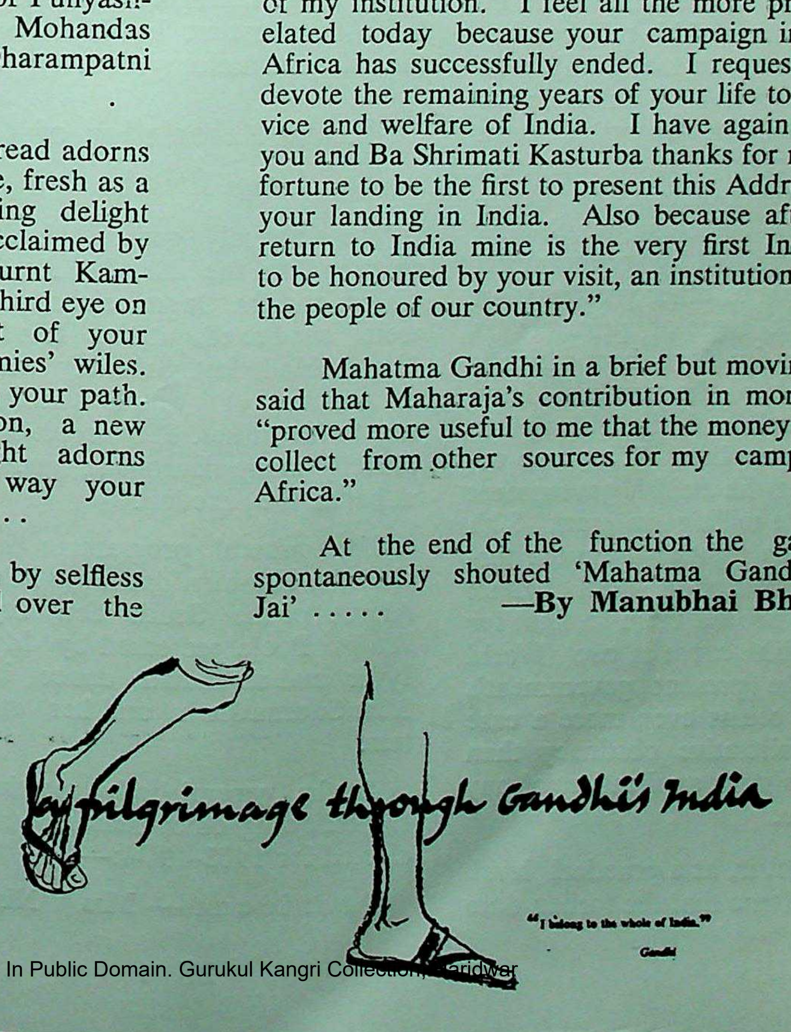
"May your name and fame, won by selfless service of the country, remain spread over the world so long as the Vedas emanating from the four mouthed Brahma last, so long as the Ram Charitra composed by Valmiki is sung in the world, so long as the people read Shri Krishna Charitra, the Harivansh and the Bhagwata; so long as the speech of Kalidasa, Saraswati's best son continues upon this earth, so long as the Aryan race and the character, of its heroic chaste women are being sung and praised in this world.

"I, the people of Gondal, and thousands of customers of the Rasashala Aushadhayshram and subscribers to Ayurveda Rahasyarak offer this prayer to the Almighty. Inspired by your mighty deeds I humbly dedicate unto you on behalf of my institution this address with the title of Mahatma.

"Along with the Address and Title of Mahatma, I also offer this medicines and books, an apt token of my institution. I feel all the more proud and elated today because your campaign in South Africa has successfully ended. I request you to devote the remaining years of your life to the service and welfare of India. I have again to offer you and Ba Shrimati Kasturba thanks for my good fortune to be the first to present this Address after your landing in India. Also because after your return to India mine is the very first Institution to be honoured by your visit, an institution serving the people of our country."

Mahatma Gandhi in a brief but moving reply said that Maharaja's contribution in money had "proved more useful to me that the money I could collect from other sources for my campaign in Africa."

At the end of the function the gathering spontaneously shouted 'Mahatma Gandhiji Ki Jai' . . . . . —**By Manubhai Bhimani.**


My pilgrimage through Gandhi's India
"I belong to the whole of India."
Gandhi

Indians Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

Crash helmets and the Sikh community

The Sikh community throughout Britain is making vigorous protests to the government over the new law compelling all motorcyclists to wear crash-helmets. Over a thousand people demonstrated in Trafalgar Square last Sunday on this issue.

For the conscientious Sikh the wearing of the Turban at all times is a fundamental part of the expression of his religious belief. The claim that Sikh's who strictly observe their religious laws should be exempted from the new regulations is, therefore, on a par with other kinds of conscientious objection which has been permitted by governments in the past to other groups. An important issue of principle is therefore involved here which is unrelated to the number, however small, of individuals to whom it applies. When one recalls that the British government was quite willing to grant Sikh troops the right to wear the turban instead of a steel helmet when it needed them to fight for the British cause in two World Wars, the present government's attitude seems even more a case of administrative obstinacy than the consistent application of any principle.

Moreover, at a practical level, it is also true that the turban does give a considerable amount of protection to the head. The following is quoted from the "Guardian" of June 1. "The building contractor, Richard Costain, carried out their own tests on the impact obsorbency of turbans, when the Sikh's refused to wear plastic safety helmets. The results were satisfactory. The Sikhs wore turbans and the workers protested that the decision was inverted racial prejudice. Costain solved that one by encouraging the dissidents to wear turbans instead of helmets".

The Singapore government and the Malaysian government have both exempted the Sikhs from their recent legislation on the safety of motorcyclists.

Kerala Association of Great Britain

The annual general body meeting of the Kerala Association and the Onam celebration were conducted at the Hindu Centre Hall, last Saturday with a dinner of South Indian vegetarian dishes. 350 people including many European guests attended the function.

The cultural programme included a Hawaiian dance by Miss Aloma of the South Sea Ivy, Ranga Pooja presented by Mrs Iyyer and an Indian dance by Miss Swarna Lath and her sisters.

At the general body meeting the following office-bearers were elected for 1973-1974:—

President — Mrs Nina Khajuria, Vice-president Davadasa Panikkar, Gen. tary — Mr N. Revindra Secretary — Mr G. F. A Treasurer — Mr K. Koma Three Trustees for the A tion, Messrs R. V. Nair Mohan, and A. K. Nair, also elected.

Dr Chandrasekhar T

Dr Chandrasekhar G. T an eminent consulting sp on Ayurveda and ancient logy, is currently in Londo came here early this mont tend a World Astronomica ciation Conference at the U sity of Surrey, Guildford.

Dr C. G. Thakur

A successful palm astrologer, Dr Chandras widely travelled. He peared on various telev broadcasting net works universities and Rotary Clubs in America, Fra many, Japan, Iran, Ho etc.

Indian Christian Organisation

The Indian Christian Organisation held its annual dinner at the Royal Commonwealth Society with the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Ramsey, the Deputy High Commissioner for India and Mrs Rasgotra, Sir Charles Cunningham, chairman, Uganda Resettlement Board, and Lady Cunningham, as guests of honour.

Dr J. Thomas, president of the Organisation, took the chair, and Mr Z. Verghase of the Organisation proposed the vote of thanks.

The Archbishop gave an account of Indo-British friendship and understanding in the context of his recent visit to India.

The function also provided an occasion to bid farewell to Mr and Mrs Rasgotra as Mr Rasgotra has been promoted to he post of India's Ambassador in Nepal where he is due to go hortly.

Before the dinner Canon Ivor Cameron-Smith said the Grace.

—**Navadoot**

Sanskritik farewell to Mr Rasgotra

Sanskritik Centre of Indian rts, of which Mr Birendra hankar is Artistic Director, gave farewell party to Deputy High ommissioner, M. Rasgotra, who ould be leaving London to take e post of Indian Ambassador in epal next month.

Among those present were r M. A. S. Dalal of Air India, r R. K. Bagri, President of the dian Chamber of Commerce id Mrs Bagri and several others terested in India's cultural tivities.

ehru Jayanti Dinner of the India League

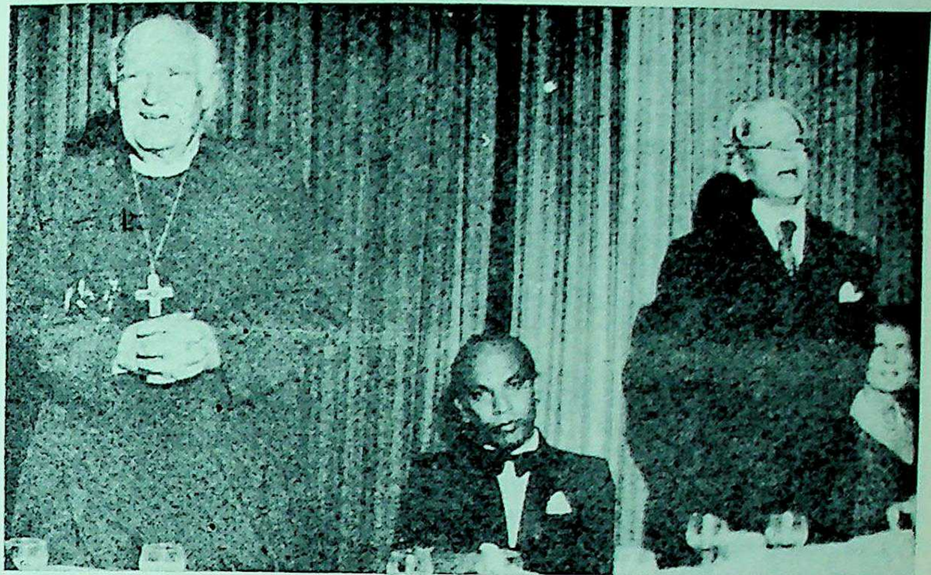
Apart from Mr V. K. Krishna enon, MP (India), former Dence Minister of India and former High Commissioner for India in London, Mr B. K. Nehru, High Commissioner for India, and Mrs Nehru, Mr Lalit Sen, a prominent member of the National Congress of India, the Duke of Devonshire accompanied by the Duchess, have kindly agreed to be present at this year's Nehru Commemorative Dinner which will be held on Tuesday 13 November, under the auspices of the India League, with Mr Julius Silverman, MP, in the chair.

Among other distinguished persons invited by the League are Mrs Shirley Williams, MP, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, MP, and Mrs Thorpe, Mr Michael Foot, MP, and Mrs Foot, Baroness Lee, widow of Aneurien Bevan, and Mr Michael English, MP.

This will be the first public function our new High Commissioner Nehru will be attending after presenting his credentials to the Queen.

Courtsey: India weekly.

Christian Association Dinner



The Archbishop of Canterbury speaking at the Indian Christian Organisation annual dinner. On his right are Dr J. Thomas, Mr M. Rasgotra and Mrs Ramsay.

Gogia Pasha, world famous Indian magician, attended the International Convention of Magicians held in Harrowgate. At the convention Gogia Pasha was called "Magicians' Magician".

Above from left to right Dr Edwin Dawes, President Magic Circle, Gogia Pasha, Mr Rodney Dent, Mayor of Harrow and Mrs Kent.

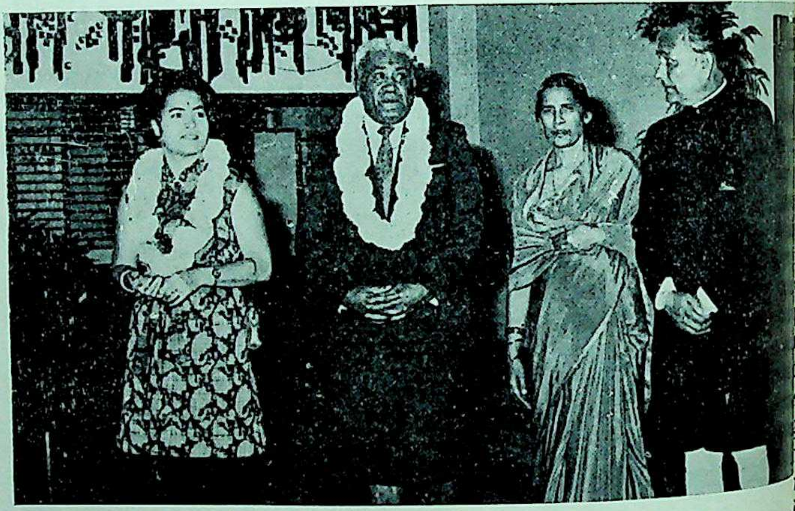
FIJI

Triple Celebrations

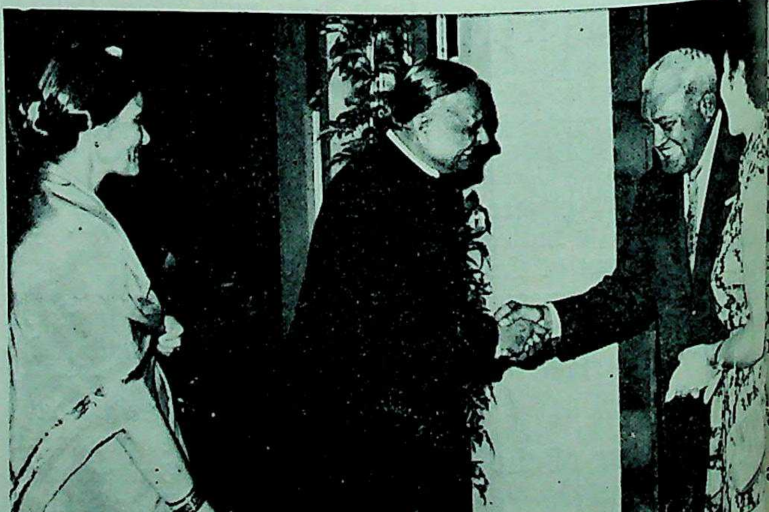
To celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic links between India and Fiji, the first anniversary of the opening of the Indian Cultural Centre in Fiji and the twenty-sixth anniversary of India's independence, the Indian community in Fiji organised festivities for one full week from the 13th to the 19th of August 1973. The week's celebrations highlighted the growing relationship between the two countries.

It began with a reception hosted by Col B. C. Joshi, Indian Military Naval and Air Advisor at the Indian High Commission in Canberra, for the officers of the Royal Fiji Military Forces and ex-servicemen. A silver statue of an Indian soldier was presented by Mr Bhagwan Singh, the High Commissioner of India, to the acting Prime Minister H. E. Ratu P. K. Ganilau, who is himself an ex-soldier with a distinguished record from the second World War. Speaking on the occasion Ratu Ganilau praised the fraternal relationship existing between the two armies. This began a week of programmes of dances and music by the artists of the Indian Cultural Centre, an exhibition of embroidered Indian sarees and garments, a fashion parade in which girls of all races paraded Indian dresses, a community dinner of Indian nationals and finally on the last day a concert of folk music.

Some of the specially interesting functions were the mamoth reception on the eve of India's Independence Day, which was presided over by the Governor General Ratu, Sir George Cakabau and Adi Lady Cakabau. They were welcomed in the traditional manner by aarti, vermilion marks on their foreheads and with garlands of fresh marigolds. Some 700 guests from different walks of life attended. Another function was the reception hosted by the Indian Cultural Exscholars Association for the High Commissioner of India Mr Bhagwan Singh. Speaking on the occasion Hon. J. B. Naisara, Minister for Education, Youth and Sports, paid glowing tributes to the government of India for awarding these scholarships to the youth of Fiji and the resultant benefits to both countries in terms of mutural goodwill, appreciation and respect. But by far the most memorable event was the "Shame Ghazal" organised in the distinguished presence of Mrs & Hon. Mr M. T. Khan, Minister for Commerce, Industries and Co-operatives and Mrs & Hon. Mr J. S. Singh, Minister for Health. Th the first time a function o kind was being organised and it was a thumping s A wide range of local urd and singers participated. occasion was graced by th sence of Hon. Mr S. M. the leader of the oppositi the president of the N Federation Party. The f continued into the early h the morning. It ended in a ing ceremony when Fiji's Ghazal singer, Mistri B was by popular demand a ed the "Malkai Ghazal of and in the traditional wrapped in a shawl by the High Commissioner, Mr wan Singh.



The Indian Commissioner and his wife with the Governor General & his



WELCOME: The Governor General & his wife are welcomed by the Commissioner Mr Bhagwan Singh and his wife.

AUSTRALIA

India shows flag at Australian Int'l Trade Fair

India and Australia, in the years to come, are likely to emerge as increasingly important trading partners. And foundations for increased trade and economic and technical co-operation between the two countries would appear to have been laid in the discussions the Australian Prime Minister, Mr E. G. Whitlam, and his team recently had in New Delhi.

A joint Business Co-operation committee is planned and the representatives of the two countries will meet periodically to give practical shape to these discussions.

With sights set in this direction, every opportunity is being seized by Indian agencies, official & non-official alike to focus Australian attention on the continuing emergence of India, as an increasingly industrialised nation, particularly in the field of heavy machinery. A case in hand is the Indian participation in the Australian International Engineering Exhibition (AIEE) held in Melbourne during last month. India was one of the ive foreign countries which ook part in this exhibition, be- ides as many as 152 Australian rms.

The Indian pavillion mounted y the Engineering Export Pro- otion Council (EEPC3 of India isplayed several products of the industan Machine Tool Ltd HMT), an Indian Government ndertaking, including such ings as a pre-selector lathe, ertical milling machine, radial ill, turret lathe, vertical indlesurface grinder and a tool nd cutter grinder.

It is equipment such as this at is playing an important role India's rapidly diversifying anufacturing industries, as well achieving considerable success the export field.

Among other Indian exhibits the India Stand were electric fans, motor and starters from Crompton Greeves Ltd, calliper brakes and cylinder valves by Vanaz Engineers (P) Ltd, a variety of spanners and relays from Universal Electrics Ltd, electrodes and public address equipment by Advani Oerlikon (P) Ltd, knitting machinery machinery manufactured by Simac Group (India) Pvt Ltd, workshop bench vices from Tekma Machinery Manufacturing Company (P) Ltd, a variety of spanners and pliers from Snail Spanners and Tools (India) Ltd, wire ropes and steel samples by Usha Wire Ropes Ltd, shock absorbers from Gabriel (India) Ltd, miniature lamps and telecommunicators made by Binay Electricals and Appliances (P) Ltd, electric fans and room coolers by American Universal Electric (India) Ltd and capacitor and resistors made by the Associated Trading Corp.

—by Rama Gaind

At a widely publicised function at the Indian High Commission premises on August 20th, the Acting High Commissioner for India, Mr J. S. Doddamani, pins Ati Vishist Seva Medal on Colonel Charles Campagnac who retired from the Indian Army in 1971. The Indian Military Attache, Colonel B. C. Joshi, looks on.

The President of India was pleased to confer award of Medal in recognition of distinguished service of exceptional order rendered by Col. Campagnac during his 25-year long service with the Indian Army.

Col. Campagnac now works for the Independent Oil Company in Melbourne (Australia).

Picture shows Dr Jim Cairns, Australian Minister for Overseas Trade (extreme right) receiving a gift of Tanjore Plate from the Indian Counsel General, Mr H. K. Mahajan, at the Indian Stand.

MAURITIUS

Sanjay — famous actor of the Indian screen visited Mauritius for one week from August 18. In an interview to the Press, he said that his sole purpose in coming here was to choose some enchanting sites for the shooting of his film 'Chandi aur Sona'. The film to be written, produced and directed by Sanjay himself will go on the floor early next year and will be partly shot in Mauritius.

12th Conference of International Aryan League

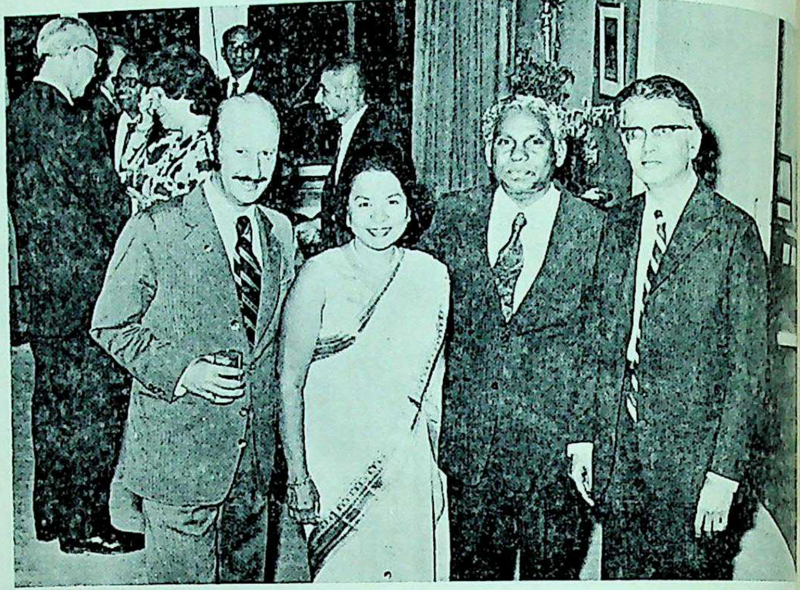
The 12th international Conference of the Arya Samaj movement was held in Mauritius from August 24 to 26. Adhereuts from India, Africa, Fiji and England attended the Conference which was officially inaugurated by the Mauritius Minister of Housing and Lands Sir A. R. Mohamed, Earlier, the 'Ackbar' —a ship chartered from Bombay berthed in Port Louis harbour with some 650 samajists. In his opening address, the Minister said that it was really heartening such a high conference was being held in Mauritius and paid tribute to the excellent achievements of the Arya Samaj in all fields namely in that of bringing better mutual understanding among people. He wished even more success to the International Aryan League.

Those who addressed the gathering, included His Excellency the Governor General, the Lord Mayor of Port Louis Mr G. Duval and the Indian High Commissioner Sri K. D. Sharma.

Founded in 1875 by Swami Dayanand to make the Hindus more conscious of their cultural heritage and at the same time to bring a sort of unity within the community on a totally different line, the Arya Samaj is already seriously envisaging to organise a massive celebration on the occasion of its foundation centenary in 1975.

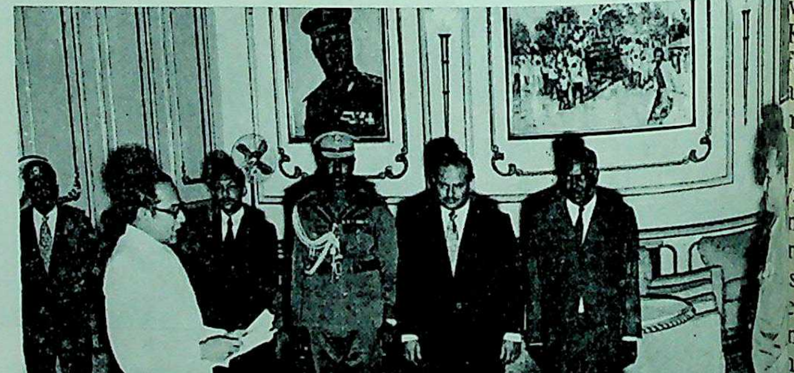
—Anand Moheeputh

TURKEY



The Ambassador of India and Mrs K. R. Narayanan, held a recepti introduce Mr V. K. M. Menon, First Secretary of the Embassy who re Mr Gajendra Singh. Photograph shows: (From left) M r Kaya T Director, Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Govern of the Republic of Turkey. Mrs Narayanan, the Ambassador and V. K. M. Menon.

SUDAN



H.E. Dr I. P. Singh delivering his opening speech before presenting th of Credence to H.E. Major General Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri, Pres the Republic of the Sudan.

KENYA

Hindu Association Raises Funds

University Students Hindu Association — USHA — of Nairobi recently donated almost £300 to various Kenya charities.

USHA organised several programmes during 'Diwali' celebrations at the University and raised the money.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, Professor Joseph Mungai, called on organisations and members of the public to donate generously to needy projects in the country.

Professor Mungai, who was giving out donations to various representatives of needy organisations at a brief ceremony held at the University, pointed out that it was imperative that the less fortunate members of the society should get help from charitable people.

Nair tours joint ventures

India's three major joint industrial ventures with Kenya were visited by High Commissioner K. C. Nair during week long familiarisation tour of western and Nyanza provinces ending tomorrow.

Early in week, Nair's party visited Raymond Woollen Mills n Eldoret two hundred miles rom here which Nair described s living symbol of economic and echnical co-operation between ndia and Kenya. Established n nineteen sixty nine, Raymond ow employs six hundred Ken-ans. With investment totalling ne crore eighty lakh rupees Raymonds uses technical know-ow of India's J. K. group. Later, Nair went to Webuye on Kenya Uganda border where Birlas are etting up Panafrican Paper mills, Kenya's largest Industrial project nce Uhuru, financed at total cost rupees three and half crores. ther investors with Birla's rient paper mills are world Bank, Kenya government and two British Banks. The mill now nearing completion and will be operational by mid seventy four. From Webuye, Nair travelled to Kisumu town on Lake Victoria to visit Kisumu Cotton Mills financed by Khatau Group which employs five hundred workers. Nair also paid courtesy calls on Commissioner Nyanza province and Mayor in Kisumu and attended cocktails hosted by local Indian communities before returning to Nairobi.

•

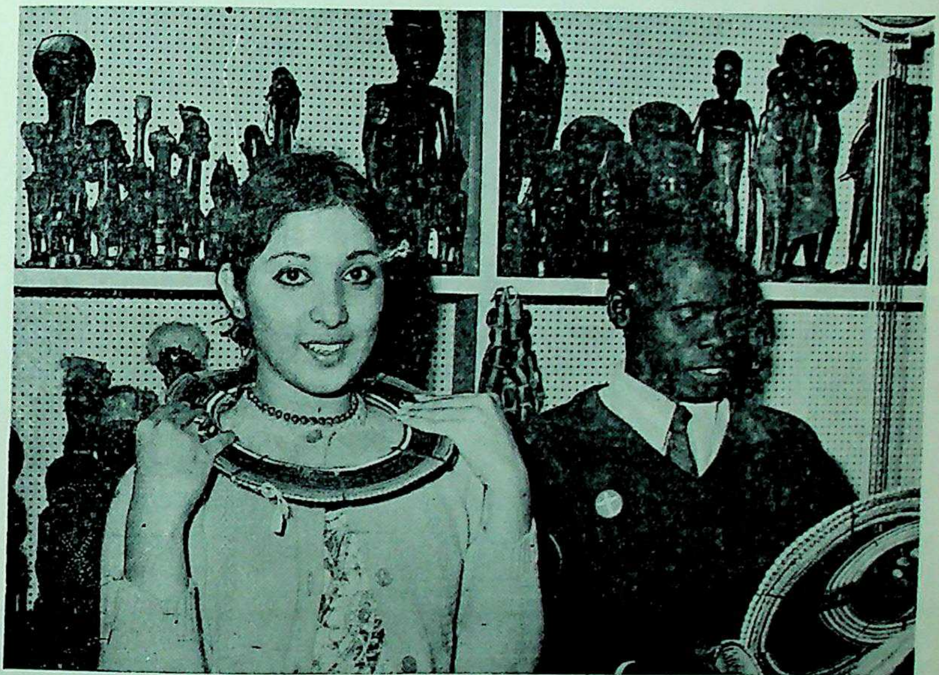
70th anniversary of Arya Samaj

The Arya Samaj, Hindu Vedic church, celebrated its 70th anniversary in August in Nairobi.

The four-day celebrations started with a baby health show followed by a seminar on the contribution of the Arya Samaj to social and cultural uplift in the modern age.

Religious education contests

Pretty Face Golden Heart



Usha raised £300 for Kenyan charities.

India's Deputy Minister for Health & Family Planning, Mr K. Basappa, currently attending the 24th World Scout Conference at Nairobi, called on Kenya's Minister for Health, Dr Z. T. Onyonka, on July 20. The High Commissioner for India, Mr K. C. Nair, accompanied him.

for school-children were also held, but the programme which had the maximum audience attendance was a musical night on Saturday by members of the City Art Society and other radio and TV artistes.

On Sunday, a seminar on the social and cultural problems facing the Asian community was chaired by Mr Satish Gautama.

After brief addresses in the afternoon, the celebrations came to a close at the Mahinder Pall Hall in Parklands.

Joint Indo-Kenya Film

Joint India Kenya Film Venture was proposed here by Chitra Krishnaswami of Emgeeyar pictures Madras. Before jetting to India, Krishnaswami made offer to Kenya Film Corporation sole distributor of motion pictures here. He offered to shoot Raju in East Africa in Hindi Tamil and Swahili with some African actors. Krishnaswami plans returning here in October to scout for locations and discussions with Kenya Film Corporation. Starring M. G. Ramachandraran and Latha shooting is scheduled for next January—February in Kenya and Tanzania. "New Picture already has good advance publicity world wide. Our latest hit—Ulagam Suttiya Valiban youth who travelled round world —shows Ramachandran getting into aeroplane and last shot shows words Raju in East Africa" he said.—**Kul Bhushan.**

BANGKOK

India presents two camels to Chiengmai Zoo

Two baby camels from the arid deserts of Rajasthan, India, found their new home at the Chiengmai Zoo, when Mrs Romesh Bhandari, wife of the Ambassador of India, presented these two dromedaries to the Governor of Chiengmai H. E. Dr Asa Meksawan, as a gift from India, at a special ceremony before a distinguished gathering.

The two camels which were specially flown out to Bangkok from India and then brought over to Chiengmai would now move into their new abode with new names—MAITRI for the male and SHANTI for the female one.

Addressing the gathering, the Ambassador Mr Bhandari said that he was very happy at the presentation of these two camels to the Chiengmai Zoo, which are the first of their kind in the Zoo. He said that he had named the pair as MAITRI and SHANTI as these names were common, both in India and Thailand, denoting the same meaning—i.e. "FRIENDSHIP and PEACE".

Vyjayanthimala's recitals in aid of Thai charities

Shrimati Vyjayanthimala who is acclaimed both at home and abroad as a doyen of Indian Classical dance and also one of the brightest luminaries of Indian movies, arrived in Bangkok with her troupe on September 8, 1973, for a few dance recitals in aid of Thai charities. This was her first visit to Thailand.

Under the co-sponsor the Embassy of India, Bharat Cultural Lodge a India, Shrimati Vyjayant and her troupe gave the performance at Chiengmai of His Majesty's Hill project. In Bangkok, the performed at the N Theatre on two evening gave one performanc UBON.

Vyjayanthimala is a p name in this country and h putation as a danseuse p cellence rose to a new p Thailand when a few yea thousands of admirers of saw her performance in t 'AMRAPALI' which was in Bangkok as a Royal Co performance movie.

India's Independence celebration

At a function organised Indian Association at th mises of the Indian Cham Commerce, the Indian munity in Bangkok ce 27th India's Independenc More than 500 Indian attended the function. P songs were sung on the o Mr Romesh Bhandari, A

Two baby camels presented by Mrs Romesh Bhandari to the Gov Chiengmai for Chiengmai Zoo on 10.8.1973.

dor of India read Hindi translation of President of India's message to the Nation.

Indian Ambassador presents Mahabodhi saplings

Mr Romesh Bhandari, Ambassador of India, presented two saplings of the Mahabodhi Tree of Bodh Gaya to His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand, at a simple but solemn ceremony held at the Supreme Patriarch's official residence at Wat Po.

Presenting the saplings, Mr Bhandari said that he felt honoured to present these saplings to His Holiness, as a token Indian People's goodwill and friendly feelings towards Thailand.

Accepting the saplings, the Supreme Patriarch thanked the Indian Ambassador and Indian Government for the precious gift. He said that he had accepted the saplings as a symbol of peace which was the essence of all that Lord Buddha had preached and which was also the eternal message of India to the world at large.

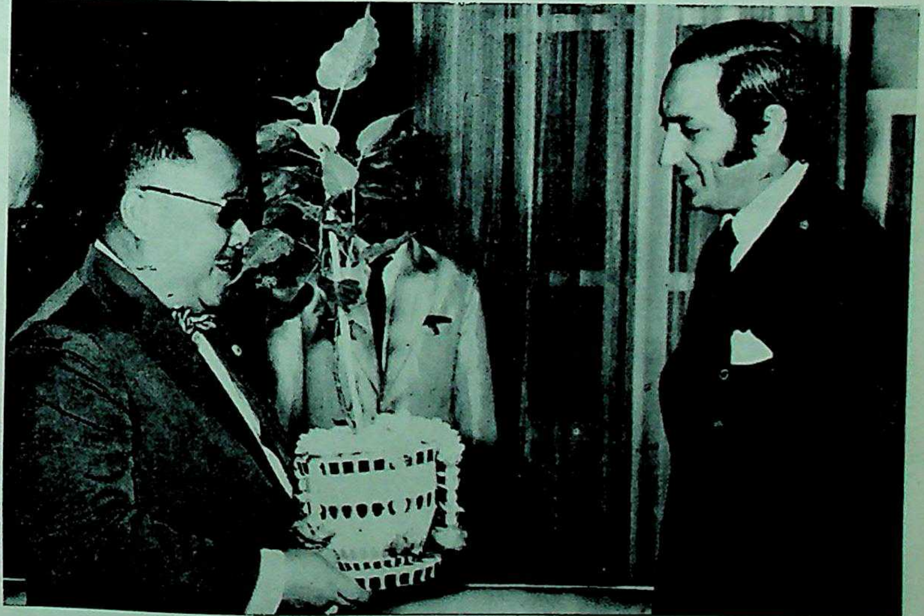
Ambassador of India, Mr Romesh Bhandari presented on 31.7.73, two saplings of the Mahabodhi Tree of Bodh Gaya to His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand, at a ceremony held at Wat Po, official residence of the Supreme Patriarch. He also presented a set of books to His Holiness.

Photo shows Mr Romesh Bhandari presenting the saplings to His Holiness The Supreme Patriarch.

KOBE

Indian Counsul's Harrassment

The local Indian community has been feeling harrassed by the ndian Consul General at Kobe. Recently, they invited the Publisher of The Indian to make a study on the spot. The latter went there, investigated into the matter and reported his findings o the Indian Authorities. Later, delegation of the Indian Chamer of Commerce in Japan called pon the Indian Ambassador at okyo. There after, a special reresentative of H.E. the Am- assador visited Kobe and made nquiries. The Indian com- unity has now been assured hat things will improve shortly.



Mr Romesh Bhandari, Ambassador of India, presented 12 saplings of Mahabodhi Tree of Bodh Gaya to Deputy Prime Minister Field Marshal Prapass Charusathira at a simple ceremony held at the premises of the Ministry of Interior, Royal Thai Government, Bangkok, on 25-7-1973, as a token of goodwill of Indian people towards Thailand.

Photo shows Field Marshal Prapass Charusathira accepting the saplings from Indian Ambassador Mr Romesh Bhandari.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czech protocol on economic cooperation

A protocol on prospective cooperation in commercial, industrial, scientific and technical fields was recently signed between India and Czechoslovakia.

Trade prospects in products like fertilisers, petro-chemicals, steel and oils were discussed by the authorities on both the sides. It was agreed that foreign trade between the two countries will have to broaden into non-traditional items particularly in engineering goods. The possibility of shifting labour intensive industries to India to maximise utilisation of available economic factors of production was also discussed by both the sides.

Further, some specific areas for technical and scientific cooperation in areas like industrial fibreglass, natural and artificial fibres, welding high pressure technology and leather research were indicated Computer and electronics periphery and machine tools for industrial production cooperation also figured in the discussion. Besides, it was agreed to make available to India the results of research and development in certain social and humanitarian fields like public health, medicine, nutrition and in areas of ecological significance like atmospheric pollution.

Czechoslovakia is one of the important East European countries with which India enjoys improving trade relations. During 1971-72, India's exports to that country were valued at Rs. 305 million as against Rs. 294 million in 1970-71. India's imports from Czechoslovakia amounted to Rs. 101.70 million and Rs. 202 million in the respective years.

Shri V. Siddharthacharry, Ambassador of India in Czechos
presented his credentials to Army General Ludvik Svoboda, Pres
Czechoslovakia Socialist Republic on September 5, 1973.

Photo shows the Ambassador presenting his credentials to the Czech
President.

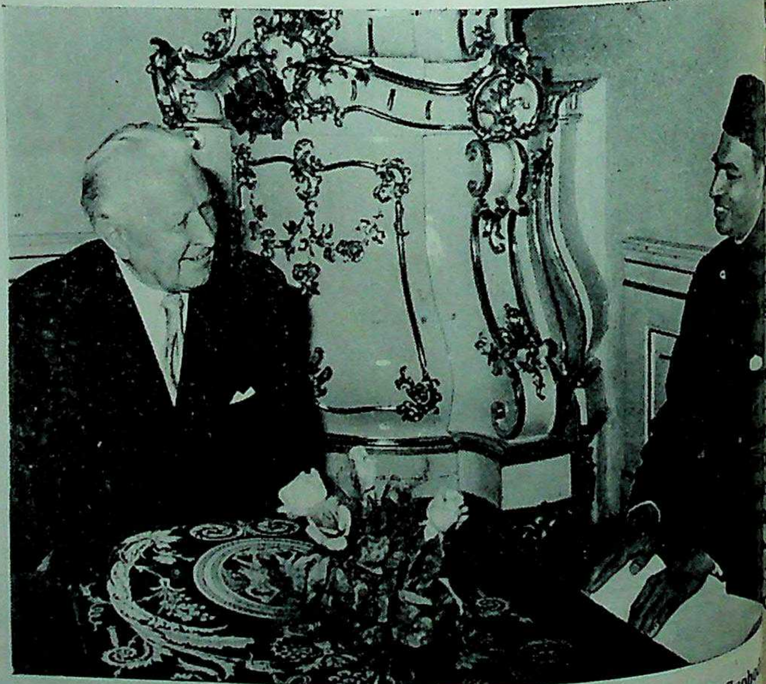


Photo shows the Ambassador in conversation with President Svobo
presentation of his credentials.

MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

Deepavali 'Queen' lost for words on her success

Looking radiant and beautiful in a bright red saree, Miss Nirmala Rajoo, 21, could find no words to express her joy in winning the 1973 "Deepavali Queen" contest, held at the National Theatre.

"I never expected to win and now I am lost for words to express my joy," said Nirmala modestly.

An accounts clerk with Texas Instruments, Nirmala beat 12 other contestants to win the first prize of a return trip to New Delhi plus a host of other prizes.

Nirmala, who will reign as "Deepavali Queen" for the next one year, was crowned by winner of last year's contest Miss Vivienne Fernando.

Second runner-up in the contest was Miss Nilma Bassi, 22, an air hostess with Singapore Airlines and third Miss Gurnam Kaur, 18, a clerk.

Nilma was awarded a refrigera-or and Gurnam received a washing machine as prizes. Both unners-up also received a numer of other prizes including perumes and cosmetics.

All the finalists appeared on tage in sarees. They were udged on their beauty, personlity and intelligence.

The contest, organised by the ngapore Indian Film, Arts and ramatic Society, was the highght of a two-hour variety show.

Mrs Lee Chee Shan, patron of e society, gave away the prizes. e judges were Mr Dadlani, ector of Government of India urist Office, Dr Nirmala Velu, medical practitioner, Mr Satpal attar, a lawyer, Miss Lee Chinoi, also a lawyer, and Mr Ian mblyn, director of Haw Par others International Ltd.

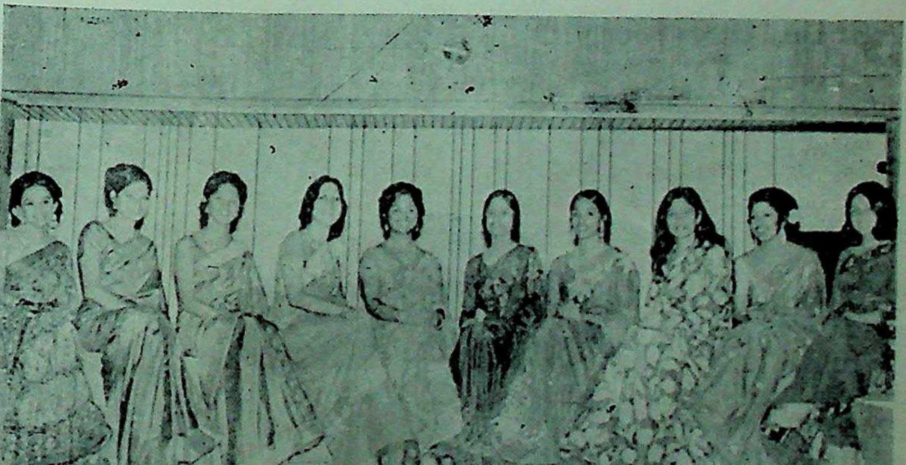
—Ranee Govindram.

(Courtesy: Straits Times)

Deepavali Queen

● Picture by Chew Boon Chin shows Nirmala (centre) flanked by Nilma (right) and Gurnam.

Lucky 13 Finalists



The 13 finalists are, from left, Patsy Fernando, 20, Nirmala Rajoo, 21, Thelaka Rajoo, 19, Cathaleen Pereira, 19, Bharti Thomas, 22, Anne Rosalind Joseph, 18, G. Nalini, 18, Catherine Kumarappa, 23, Mary Magdelene Cruz, 28, and Gurnam Kaur, 18. Not in the picture: May Govindasamy, Nilma Bassi and Eugenie Antoinette Mathaloimony.

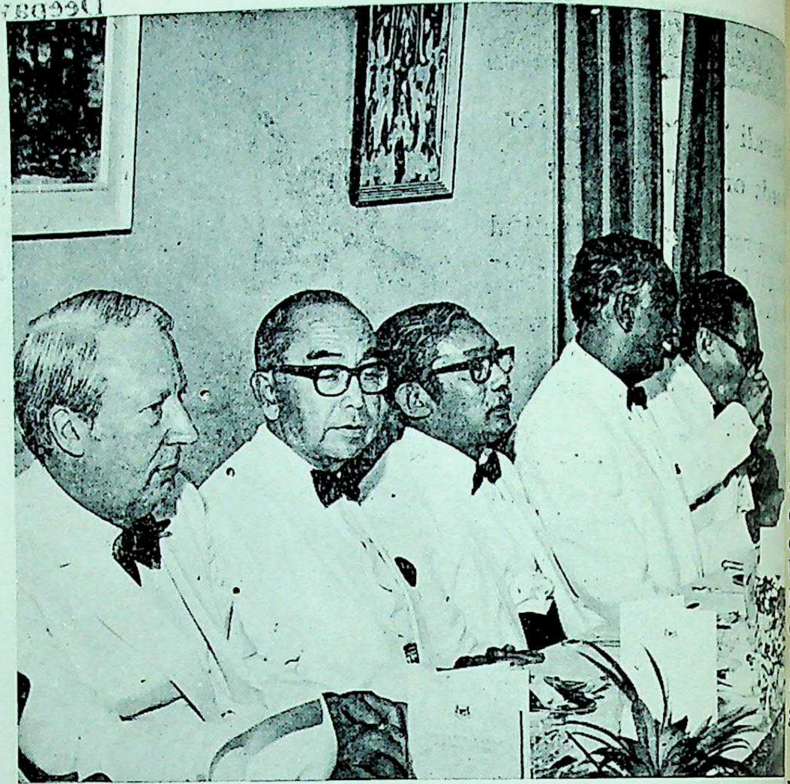
Malaysia Indians mourn death of Tun Dr Ismail

Malaysians of Indian origin in common with the other races in the country deeply mourned the death of Tun Dr Ismail, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia who died suddenly of a heart attack on August 2.

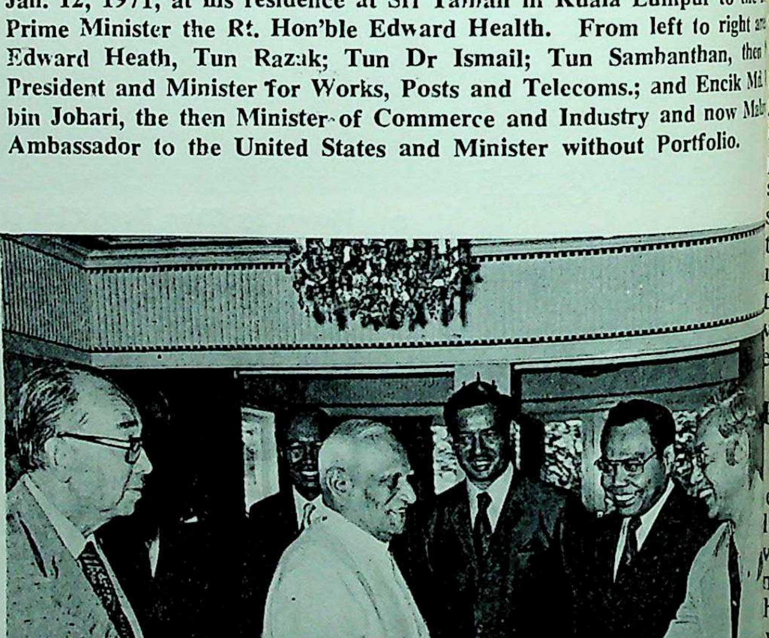
Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi in her condolence message to Tun Razak said she was deeply grieved at the demise of Tun Ismail. Tun Sambanthan, was also the National President of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) until recently, said Tun Ismail's death meant the loss of a "great patriot, a nationalist and a man of vision." Labour and Manpower Minister and the new MIC President, Tan Sri Manickavasagam, said: "Tun Ismail's distinguished career and dedication to the nation will be remembered by all."

New Deputy Prime Minister is from Dehra Doon

It must be no small joy for Indian leaders to know that Tun Ismail's successor is a product of Dehra Dun Military Academy—India's "Sandhurst"—and a former Captain in the Indian Army. He is no other than Datuk Hussein Onn, eldest son of the late Datuk Sir Onn bin Ja'afar who pioneered Malayan freedom movement and founded the United Malays National Organisation, the senior partner of the ruling Alliance Party whose other partners are the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) (President Tun Tan Tan Siew Sin) and the Malaysian Indian Congress. Datuk Hussein was until recently the Minister for Education. Now, in addition to being the Deputy Prime Minister, he is also the Minister for Trade and Industry.



Picture taken during a dinner given by Prime Minister Tun Abdul Raz Jan. 12, 1971, at his residence at Sri Taman in Kuala Lumpur to the Prime Minister the Rt. Hon'ble Edward Health. From left to right Edward Heath, Tun Razak; Tun Dr Ismail; Tun Sambanthan, then President and Minister for Works, Posts and Telecoms.; and Encik M bin Johari, the then Minister of Commerce and Industry and now Mal Ambassador to the United States and Minister without Portfolio.



The President of India, Shri V. V. Giri, shaking hands with Tun, Dr This picture was taken in on March 6, this year, when the Indian P was entertained to a luncheon by the Malaysian Prime Minister Tu Razak at his residence at Sri Taman in Kuala Lumpur. In the pict Razak is seen standing behind the Indian President, who was then on visit to Malaysia.

No peace in Indian body

Well, coming to the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) affairs, I must say with regret that the change in its leadership affected recently has not brought peace within the organisation. For even after the change, there is no dearth of court cases demonstrations, protests and even open challenges to fight it out not verbally but with hands! These things are in fact on the increase now, because of the annual delegates' conference which is drawing near. Before the annual delegates conference, the State branches and subbranches must hold their annual meetings to elect delegates and so on, and so these conferences are being used for showdowns between the rival groups in the MIC.

In Penang, things were even worse. At the State branch meeting, rival delegates from sub-branches refused to leave the hall. A demonstrator threw a brick into the hall and a security guard and press cameraman were injured by glass splinters. When the meeting was held again a week later, police were called to reinforce securicor guard when demonstrators became unruly. Two of the demonstrators were also arrested. One member challenged the CWC member to a fight, whereupon Manickavasagam called the police to maintain order.

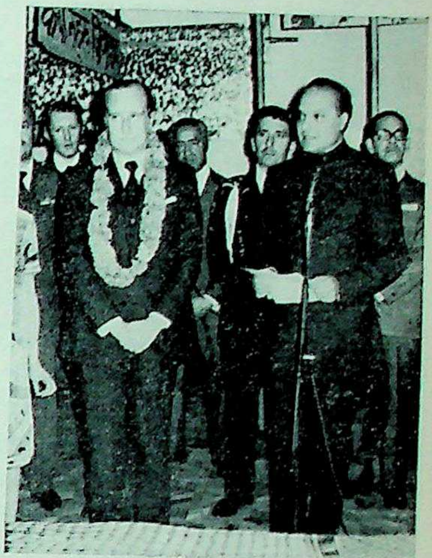
Plight of Singapore Indians

In Singapore too, things do not eem to be too happy for the Inlian community. They are still vithout a proper share and voice n the Government, while their hare of scholarships, training wards and such other educationl opportunities are also very few nd utterly negligible and nadequate. The non-recognition f the Indian medical degree by ne Singapore Government since ome years has not only caused ardship to some but humiliation p all.

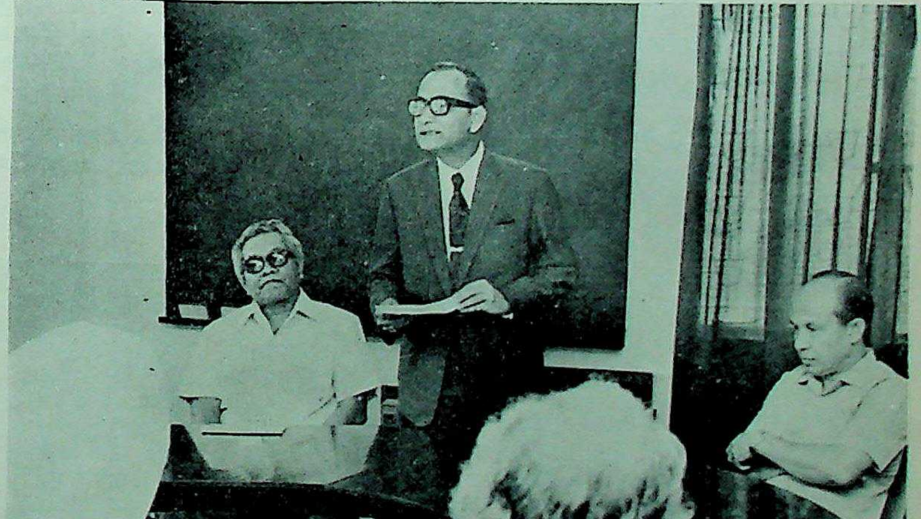
Of course, there is no disrimination against the Indians s such in law, or for that matter gainst any other minority. In fact, there is a high-powered Council appointed by the President to vet all laws against racial bias or discrimination before they are passed. But in the absence of a specific legislation or directive by the Government for the principle of multi-racialism to be strictly observed in awards and appointments both in the public and private sectors, and in all other fields as well, it will be difficult to secure equal justice for the minorities. As it is, this sound principle of multi-racialism and equality and equal opportunities for all races does not seem to have gone beyond the philatelic level! The tragedy even in this very limited implementation of the principle is the highly distorted picture it has given to the public. For, the people both here and abroad are likely to imagine from the few postage stamps bearing the pictures of Indian dancers and Indian musical instruments that everything is all right with the Indian community and this, however, is far from true.

—**G. S. Muthukrishnan.**

BOGOTA / COLUMBIA



Ambasador Madanjeet Singh reading the address of welcome to the President of Colombian Republic, Misael Pastrana Borrero, who inaugurated recently 'The World of Nehru' exhibition at the National Museum Bogota.



Datuk Hussein Onn, who has succeeded the late Tun Dr Ismail as the Deputy Prime Minister, is seen in this picture declaring open a journalism course at the South East Asia Press Centre in Kuala Lumpur in April this year. At that time, Datuk Hussein was the Minister of Education.

HONG KONG

Charity Performance

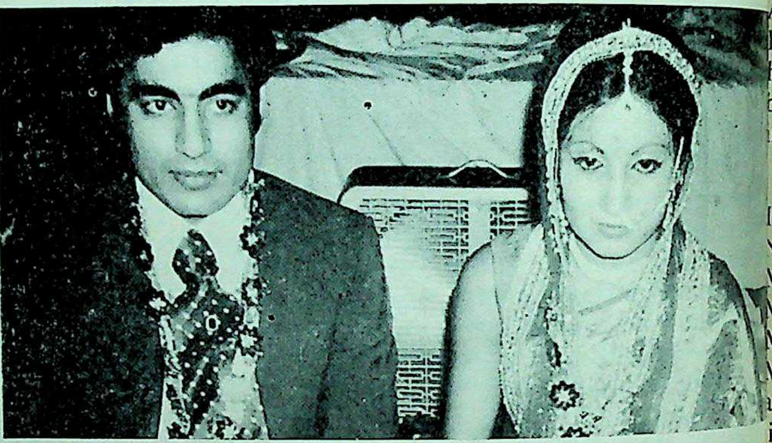
The Dance Recital by Vyjayanthimala and her group of artistes organised by Hongkong Indian Women's Club received great praise from the audience and critics alike.

Club raised approximately $188,000 by way of donations, advertisements, and sale of tickets. This is a great sum that our ladies raised for charity. In fact it is the single largest fund-raising in Club's history. The Fund-Raising Committee, comprising of ladies from Kowloon and Hong Kong under the chairmanship of Mrs Kamla Kapahi is to be congratulated for their hard work and dedication in the organising of the evening.

Vyjayanthimala

A cheque of $150,000.00 will be presented to the Hongkong Association for the Mentally Handicapped Children and Young Persons.

Seen at a dinner party given in honour of Dr and Mrs Bali are L to Bali, Mrs Shahani, Mrs Vijayanthimala Bali and Mr Kishin Shahani.



Marriage vows were exchanged at Jamaica Gurudwara in Queens Ramesh N. Advani—A quality Control Specialist at Duplicating New York City, and Greeta J. Pherwani secretary at Air India City office.

About 400 guests attended the ceremony and the reception. Among guest were Mr and Mrs Louis Lekhwani and Dr. and Mrs Mansharamani.

TO
DINA AND ANIL

Dina and Anil Mohan celebrated their double Birthday party Gaylord Kowloon. The party which was attended by a large children and their parents, included a magic show also.

Photo shows Dina and Anil being helped by their parents to cut

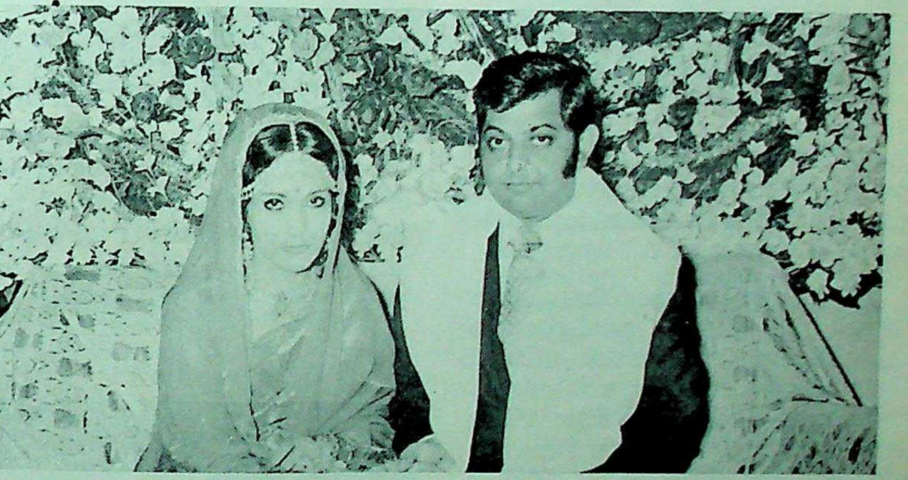
Indian Chamber Luncheon Meeting

Mr K. K. Unni, Air India's Managing Director, was the guest speaker at the Indian Chamber luncheon held last month. Mr Unni gave an interesting account of the many problems facing the aviation industry, with the shortage of fuel, hi-jacking risks and general spiralling of expenditure. Nevertheless there was a firm note of optimism and Mr Unni was confident that all the airlines would be able to surmount these obstacles and that the future should be a bright one. Air India, according to him, were holding their own and it was hoped that after two years of being in the red, would be back in the black this year.

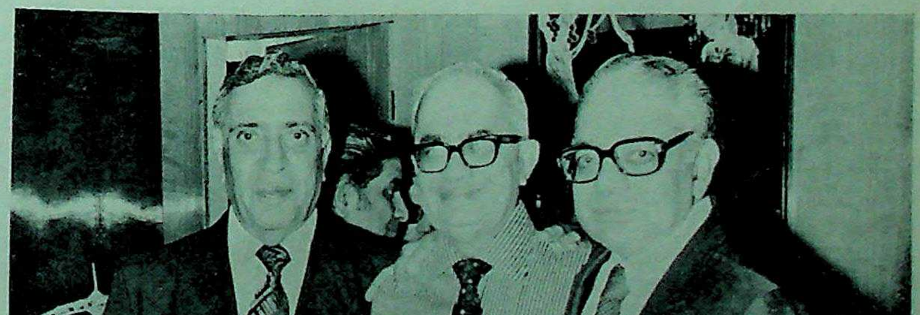
Mr Unni, together with Air India's Commercial Director, Mr N. H. Dastur, the Commercial Manager Marketing and Sales, Mr I. D. Sethi, and the Marketing Manager Eastern Routes, Mr M. P. Mascarenhas, were here to attend a conference of the airline's representatives in this region. At the conference Air India's past performances were reviewed and plans discussed for future possible expansion in this area.

Mr. G. G. Jethwani partner of G. G. Corporation Dubai, visited Hong Kong recently on his way to Taipei, Japan and Korea.

Photographed at Air India's Regional Conference at the Hilton last month. (l-r Mr K. K. Unni, Managing Director, Mr C. S. Pinto, Regional Director East Asia, Mr N. H. Dastur, Commercial Director, Mr I. D. Sethi, the Commercial Manager Marketing and Sales and Mr M. P. Mascarenhas, the Marketing Manager Eastern Routes.)



Arjan Choithramani of M/s Esquire was married to Sheela Khiani of Madras, India at Hindu Temple, Happy Valley, Hongkong on 9th August, 1973. The couple spent their honeymoon in Manila.



Seen at recent cocktail party are L to R: Mr Issardas Mahtani, Mr J. Mulchand and Mr R. Hassaram.

NEW DELHI

Brain Drain: USA

The number of Indian students studying in the United States has nearly doubled from 6,800 in 1966 to more than 12,500 today. That this has happened in spite of the devaluation of the rupee is as much a tribute to the value attached here to an American degree as a reflection on the utter failure to improve the quality of higher education in this country.

For the last 20 years the Central and State Governments have concentrated on pushing more and more students through the educational treadmill without a thought to raising the standards of teaching. Classrooms are hopelessly overcrowded, teachers' salaries have failed to keep up with the rising cost of living, and libraries and science laboratories have been sadly neglected. It is no surprise that a foreign degree is even more in demand than it was 20 years ago.

It may be argued that since four out of five students go abroad on scholarships offered by the host country, this education costs India very little. But nothing could be further from the truth. According to a detailed survey carried out by the Institute of International Education, one out of four Indian students in the United States applies for an immigrant visa. This means that more than 3,000 of the 12,500 students in America today will not return home after they complete their studies.

This is not all. The survey reveals that the vast majority of those who stay behind are engineers, scientists and doctors. The financial loss sustained by this country from this brain drain runs into crores of rupees every years. What is worse, it is deprived of the contribution that these students could have made to national development if they had returned home.

The only way to stop the brain drain is to discourage particular

Princess Pahlavi of Iran shaking hands with Mrs Egelund, Second S of the Embassy of Denmark in India, who received the Mohamm Pahlavi prize on behalf of the High School Students Associations of D and Norway for their literacy work for Zambian farmers. Prof. Hasan India's Education Minister and Mr Mahaeu look on.

Dr Okoi Snrpo, Minister for External Affairs of Nigeria, called on V. V. Giri in New Delhi recently.

categories of students such as doctors from staying on abroad after they finish their studies. This can be done by making them sign a bond which obliges them to serve at home for a certain number of years. At present only those who go abroad on Indian Government scholarships are required to do so. But there is no reason why this restriction should not apply to all students going to foreign universities, in view of the vast expense n curred by the public exchequer on training every doctor or engineer.

A more important measure, which is in any case long overdue, is to set up really first class post-graduate teaching institu-ions in this country to which the best students can seek admission. But even this is apt to lead to great frustration if there are no proper jobs for the better quali-ied doctors and engineers when hey finish their studies. This langer can be averted only by a nuch higher rate of growth, reating enough new jobs to ab-orb all those with specialised kills.

Indians in West Germany

This correspondent has seen ndians indulge in flights of fancy s to what would have happened Hitler's Germany had won the econd World War. India ould have come under the Ger-ans. There would have been eater intercourse between the o countries. Indians would be eaking German. And a num-r of us would be living in Ger-any. But, fortunately, Hitler, at fiend in human shape, met e fate no man could have more chly deserved and we found rselves face to face with John ulls and Colonel Blimps.

However, that is not to say at there is no contact between dia and Germany, West Ger-any to be more precise. In ct, there is plenty of it, as the arned West German Ambassa-r, Mr Guenter Diehl, borated in an informal lecture ended by this correspondent.

Overseas Indians would be interested to know that, according to Ambassador Diehl, there are about 2000 Indians living in West Germany. But it must be clarified that they are not settled there as such. Most of them are working for the various Indian organisations in that country and are there on postings. A number of them are engaged in higher studies and scientific research.

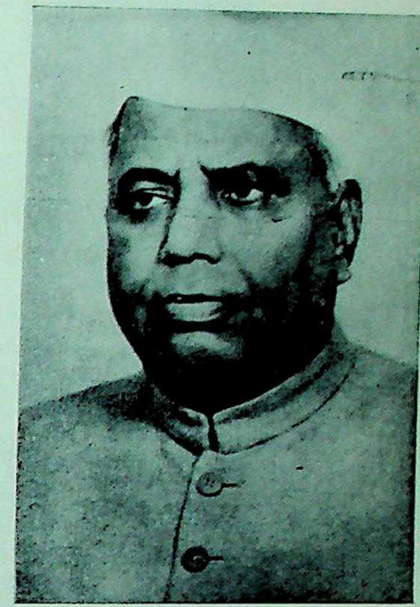
Ambassador Diehl surprised me by saying that a person who has stayed for three years in that country can seek citizenship status, perhaps he meant immigrant status. Your particular pigmentation would not put you at a disadvantage in West Germany as there is no problem of colour discrimination.

As for similarities between West Germany and India, there are quite a few if one looks for them, not to speak of the German scholarship in Sanskrit. But what interested me most in Ambassador Diehl's exposition is the fact that, although both the countries are federal republics, in West Germany the states are vested with far greater powers.

In view of our countless diversities, and the consequent centrifugal tendencies, can such a thing be possible in India? Ours is a country with a federal constitution but a unitary bias, at least these days.

— **Arvind Bhandari**

* * *



Mr Y. B. Chavan

Finance Minister of India whose baggage was searched by Kenyan Authorities as he was leaving Nairobi after attending the World Monetary Conference of bankers. His flight was delayed by over two hours. The search was made on alleged tip off that Mr Chavan was carrying suitcase full of currency out of Kenya. Mr Chavan had visited various Indian banks during his week's stay in Nairobi.

Mrs Gandhi gave an interview to a group of young people from abroad on a visit to India.

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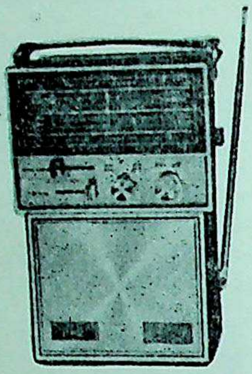

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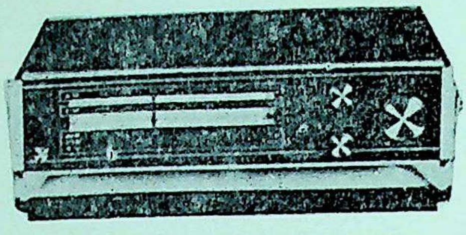

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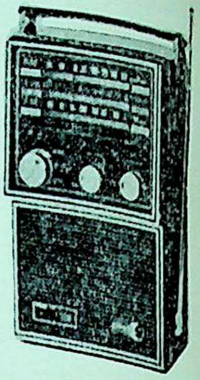

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Communications

We publish below a few out of several hundred communications received on the sad and untimely demise of Bhagwan Motwani. — Editors.

BHAGWAN -

he Personification of a True Overseas Indian

Men may come, men may go, ıt the caravan goes on. This etic expression is justified at all nes, in all men and in all imes and countries.

People may die, people may born, both events taking place nultaneously or within the an of split seconds.

Yet tragic death of Bhagwan otwani, on the afternoon of tober 3, 1973, is lingering in minds of most Indians in ng Kong. Strangely enough, ave not been able to shake off own convulsions and, like ny others, have been brooding r how death could come to agwan. "It is indeed tragic, lly tragic and cruel," was all at I could hear from the lips nany Indians who, like me, not able to reconcile to the that such a tragedy could in- d take place. That Bhag- had the most peaceful death n everyone's lips. But that should happen a few days ore the wedding of his son ok is indeed most tragic.

n Bhagwan one can easily ern the true qualities and acteristics of a model over- Indian. If Overseas In- s could try to lead such an stentatious, unassuming life simplicity and self-discipline as Bhagwan, I dare say they would be able to present a unique image of their community and also of their great Motherland.

Here was an Indian who came to Hongkong nearly 25 years ago and set up business in a small way—as most Indians who emigrated from India to these parts did in those days—and later was joined by his brothers and helped them to prosper in their own way and to establish themselves as successful businessmen in the Colony.

A silent, behind-the scene social worker and in any Indian organisation a contented person, Bhagwan, never aspired for any positions. Yet he could step into any businessman's office, rich or otherwise, and talk amiably and unperturbably, on equal terms and with mutual respect and understanding.

Bhagwan was one of the few, rather rare, examples of a true overseas Indian in Hongkong, who had literally no enemy at all in the Indian community, not to speak of his numerous friends in the other communities. This fact is testified by perhaps one of the largest crowd of Indians present at his funeral rites at the Hindu Crematorium. Indians of all walks of life and faiths were there to pay their last respects to this unostentatious, simple-living Indian who was a strict vegetarian and a tee-totaller and whose life of simplicity and purity was one of unadulterated quietness and self-discipline.

The Harilela brothers, the Murjanis and even the respected Barma were all there at the funeral rites—a sight unprecedented in the Indian community in recent years. This was ample proof, if proof indeed was needed, to show how Indians of all shades of activity and thought and life, loved and respected Bhagwan.

In Bhagwan, I visualised a typical overseas Indian who personified and symbolished everything I admire at and cherish and everything which an ideal overseas Indian ought to imbibe cultivate and practise.

Bhagwan's faith in the industrial capacity and development in his Motherland had influenced him recently to set up a factory in India. He was going to visit India this year—end to supervise its production for export overseas.

What a tragedy to occur to kill a true Indian's patriotic ambitions!

While I offer my sincerest condolences to the bereaved members of the Motwani families, I also offer my prayers to the Almighty in unison with the hundreds of mourners in our community. May his soul rest in peace. Ohm Shanti Ohm Shanti.

—**K. R. Ramanath.**

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Communications . . . .

Bhagwan Motwani

ssed away but lives ever

in our hearts

silent worker of
r commuity:

Mr Bhagwan Motwani passed ay peacefully at Hongkong at 30 p.m. on 3rd October, 1973.

On hearing the news the whole dian community wept silently, ople who did not see eye to eye th him when he lived also went ound with wet eyes.

Here was a man cast in the uld of our immortal rishis like ny other great and divine ls.

Can such a man die? Or does merely perform the ceremony immortality by stepping out of t?

No! This is one death that lds a shrine of memory in our rts for the rest of our lives. se silent rishis never die. y live in the eternity of time come closer to us every day. c many noble souls before , Bhagwan was also a child of tualism, the eternal, religion, ch has a convenant with god bless his family and friends such pilgrims of virtue and le ideals at regular intervals.

ow that Bhagwan has enter-he pantheism of our rishis, let name be in our hearts and not ur lips and let his memory be altar of worship and not a ter of materialism.

—Ghanshyam K. M.

•

"I was very shocked to hear of the most untimely demise of Mr. B. K. Motwani. Please accept our heartfelt condolences."

L. N. Rangarajan,
Indian Commissioner
Hong Kong.

"Bhagwan was to us a great supporter of all activities and even more a good friend to all who came in contact with him."

H. N. Harilela, J.P.
Hong Kong.

•

"B.K. was indeed respected by all Rotarians, his presence at our meetings will most certainly be missed. We join you in this sorow and trust that your faith will carry you through this difficult period and through happier periods."

Ira D. Kaye,
President
Rotary Club of Kowloon.

"I shall always remember our dear Bhagwan for the warmth and gentleness of his manners, for the sincerity which always exhibited itself in his personality, and for the sheer pleasure that his company brought to all his friends. Please allow me to take this opportunity, however late, to convey our deepest condolences for this tragedy that has struck".

Lachu K. Mahtani,
Tokyo, Japan.

"Cannot believe Bhagwan is dead. I suffer with you and share your sorrow".

Prof. Ram Panjwani,
Bombay.

"A man is like a pendulum between tears and smiles. We humans meet to create memories and part to cherish them.

B.K., apart from being a very successful man was a very good human being whose pleasant association will linger long and remain ever fresh in the minds of all his friends.

May his soul rest in peace."

L. K. Malani
Hong Kong.

"Life know not what thou art
But know that thou and I must part
And when or how we met
I own to me is secret yet"

—Bhagwad Gita

"Death! There is no death
It is can open door
Thro' which you pass
To life for evermore"

—Bhagwad Gita

"To me remains nor place not time
my country is in every claim
I can be calm and free from care
on any shore since God is there"

—Bhagwad Gita

(Contributed by K. K. Motwani.)

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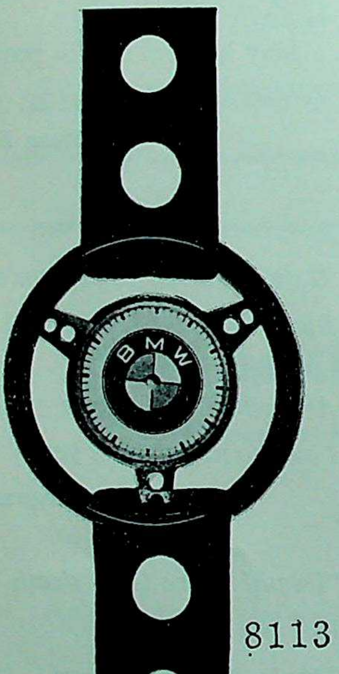

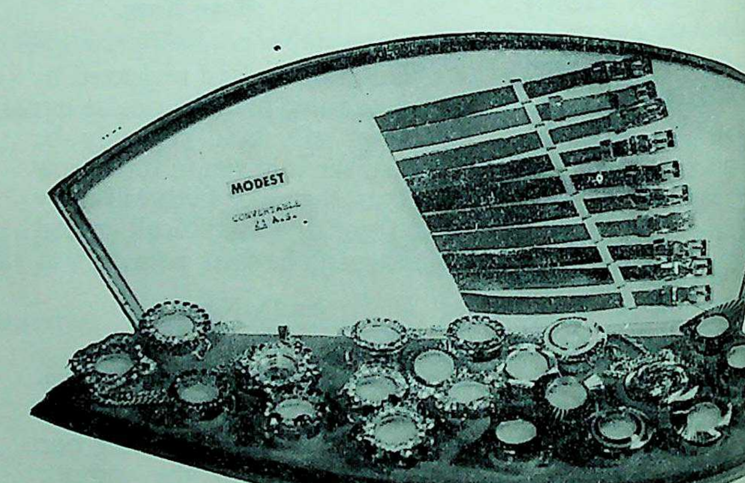

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Friends In Ethiopia

Sir,

We have been, off and on, etting a copy of your monthly agazine THE INDIAN. It oes contain lot of information hich may not be available to ndians living abroad easily other- ise. Its get-up is nice and we ish to congratulate you on ringing out a beautiful magazine ike this from Hong Kong.

We shall send you photographs nd the news items from here rom time to time. We shall lso be pleased to put your name n our mailing list for the publica- ion we produce from here. A opy each of the last two issues f Indian Quarterly which we re publishing here are being ent to you separately. On page 0 of April issue you will find the ews item of INS Mysore visiting thiopia and from the last issue f July 73 you will find a news em of our recently held photo- raphic exhibition in Ethiopia.

We are also forwarding a copy f your last issue to Mr C. N. ehta, President, Indian Asso- ation. P.O. Box No. 1040, ddis Ababa, with the request at they may like to keep you in uch with their activities from ne to time.

M. Ganju.

ddis Ababa.

They Move In Peru

For some months now we have gularly been receiving your ex- lent publication The Indian, d have been reading it with much interest. We thank you for having us on your regular mailing list.

As reciprocal courtesy and also to give you a general idea of India's economic and commercial relations with Peru, we are herewith sending you a copy of a special supplement on India, we recently brought out in the "Peruvian Times" of Lima, to coincide with the visit of a high level engineering export promotion council's delegation to this country.

P. A. Nazaraeth.

Lima-Peru

Nothing From Uganda

Sir,

This is to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter. As you are no doubt aware, most of the people of Indian origin were expelled from Uganda last year. There are, therefore, hardly any significant activities or programmes organised by the Indian community left in this country.

B. A. Rajgopalan.

Kampala

She Was In Canada

Sir,

We receive the monthly magazine The Indian and read it with interest.

Recently the Prime Minister of India paid a good-will visit to Canada from June 17-24. She visited a number of Canadian cities including Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Victoria and everywhere she was enthusiastically received. Her visit further strengthened the traditional bond of friendship between India and Canada.

R. N. Nath.

Ottawa.

We Are In Fiji Too

Sir,

I am an Indian citizen at present residing in Fiji. I am working here as a teacher in a local secondary school. I have been reading your magazine with interest for the past few months. It is read with interest by a lot of people here in Fiji and we were all a bit surprised and disappointed to see that you did not carry any news of Fiji in the last few issues. More than half the population of Fiji is Indian and Indian community plays a very important role in this country and there is always something or the other happening here that may be of interest to other Overseas Indians. The reason for my letter is that I would like to write and report for your magazine. I could do this on a regular basis.

Ajay Singh.

Suva-Fiji.

Thank You Sir

Sir,

I have received a few copies of this magazine which we find of great interest.

I enclose a photograph which was recently taken during the opening of The World of Nehru Exhibition in Bogota. I presume, the readers of your magazine will find this of interest.

Madanjeet Singh
Ambassador

Bogota

From Warsaw

Sir,

We have been getting your magazine regularly and will from time to time supply you appropriate photographs and news items which might be of interest to your magazine.

K. Natwar Singh.

Warsaw-Poland

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Inter-community relations

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THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG
printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

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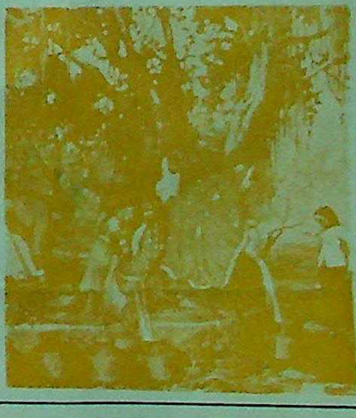

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Samaiki

G. Sital

Get Going with the Youth

For past several years I have advocated active participation of our youth in the social and cultural programmes organised by various Indian associations. I feel, as many of you do, that being far away from the motherland, in strange environments, our youngsters grow up alien to our religion, culture and way of life. They need to be constantly exposed to various facets of the Indian culture.

In this contex, the invitation of our new Commissioner in Hong Kong Shri A. Madhavan, to Indian children to come along with their parents for the Republic Day Celebrations made me very happy. I congratulate him for this imaginative step.

In order to attract youth to them, the Indian associations and clubs should create enough activities for our youth to keep them occupied year around. Positive results can be achieved with diversified programmes organised by different groups. For example:

- Indian organisations/clubs could create "Youth Wings" to attract youth to participate in cultural activities, sports, drama etc.
- Indian Embassies or Consulates may organise essay, painting, singing and similar other contests for children on special occasions such as the Republic Day.
- Our National carrier "Air India" can contribute by operating low rate "Cultural" tours for youth.
- Ladies groups who organize bazars, fairs, Indian food festivals, picnics could seek active participation of our children.
- Mini libraries with a good selection of books and periodicals on India if made available at convenient places should keep youth informed about cultural and topical affairs.

And finally, the young should also make their voice heard both individually as well as collectively. They should express themselves with regards to the choice of programmes and activities in suitable manner and have a dialogue with relevant authorities from time to time. The idea is to get things going.

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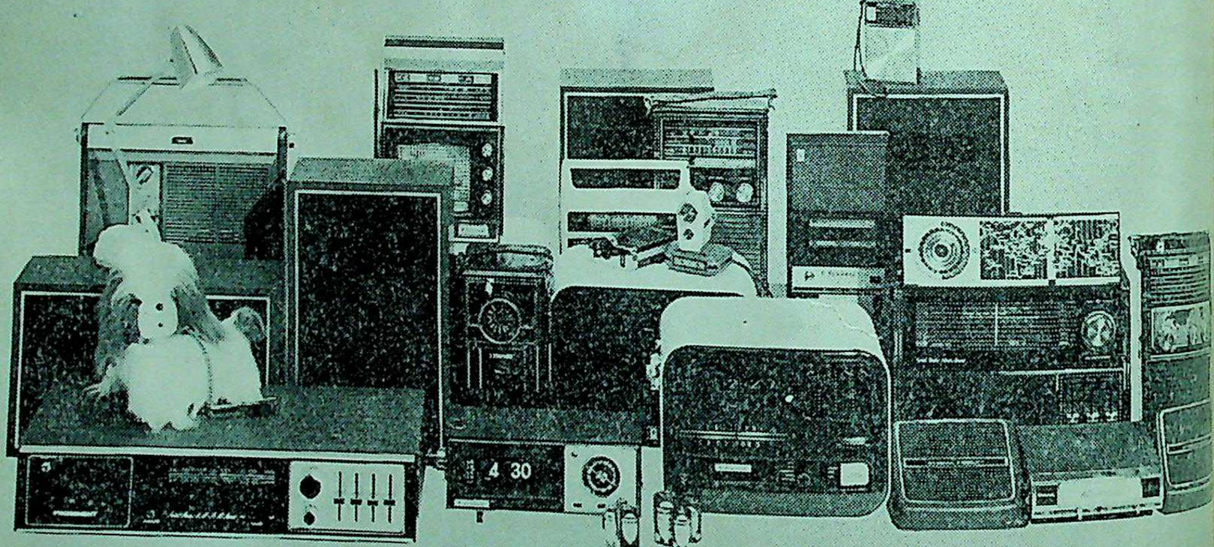

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

WHAT A WEDDING

A few weeks ago, an Overseas Indian wedding celebration was a topic of talk and amusement in India. The families involved were two Overseas Indians, from the United Kingdom. The wedding took place at Hotel Taj Intercontinental at Bombay. Here is a report filed by Dina Vakil in the Times of India.

"They came from as far off as Hong Kong and New York, weighed down by mounds of handsome monogrammed luggage. As they trickled into the lobby of the five-star hotel registering velvety, polyslylabic surnames that rolled like money, they brought with them some of the world's most exclusive trademarks: Gucci bags, Norrell perfume and hairdresser from Michaeljohn of London. Within days, every suite in the hotel was occupied.

Jet Set

Unlike the seasonal jet set wanderings to sun in Caracas or shoot dice in Las Vegas, this was no random meeting. It was a collection of the rich and the super-rich — some expatriates, some Indian nationals, nearly all with far-flung business interests —who had come together to bless a union of two clans. Why else would anyone leave behind a mosic swimming pool like King Feisal's or a Park Avenue boutique or the bluest of blue chip investments?

For the next few days they bumped into each other in the chandeliered ballrooms and at indolent 2 p.m. lunches. Over pate, champagne and masses of roses their skittish laughter and thin English accents filled the rooms. So many elegantly wan young men in pastel shirts; so many wafer-thin nubile women led by lynx-eyed mothers. By mid-week, perhaps the bride and the groom had become incidental to it all. What was important was the display, the lavishness and the total abandon.

Famous Bash

At a poolside party on the groom's ninth floor terrace, most revellers ended up in the water, as in Ethel Kennedy's famous bash at Hickory Hill some years ago. At a banquet, tickets are alleged to have been distributed among the invities to avoid guest control restrictions and also to keep intruders out.

At any rate, even if one gate crashed, one would have to be savvy enough to talk of Cartier's latest selections or the skiing at Gtsaad or whether the Hong Kong stock market was still bearish. Or again, how much to donate to the gurdwara on Long Island to claim a sizable tax deduction.

Country Squires

But why choose Bombay for the spectacle? Why not Milan or Paris or London where sumptuousness would cost more but offend less? Why not flaunt those diamonds on poreless, emollient-rich skin at some Chaucerian country estate where the brown sahib could play the squire with a little more ease? Where food could be plentiful and exotic and cooked in wine without worrying about the little man by the road licking the pulp off dried banana peel. Where creme dementhe could be served in tiny liqueur glasses of the finest Bohemian crystal?

Now even the hairdresser is spoilt. In the best let-them-eat cake tone he could muster, he ordered the wedding photographer to send him copies of the pictures to fill up his scrapbook back home."

The Indian Express noting that the groom's hair dresser (a barber) was flown from England and published the following report.

"Britain's leading hair-stylist for men was specially flown to Bombay to do the bridegroom's hair at a high-society wedding.

The wedding was that of Mr Gulu Waney, a business man with wide interests abroad, with Poonam of the well-known Chellaram family.

Mr Frank Warner of London's exclusive Michaeljohn salons, who styles the hair of leading actors and "most of the royals", has been put up at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Bombay. Mr Warner made interesting comments on the changing trends in men's hair. Though the 'young sports" and the jet set may be very trendy, their hair styles are outdated. Men's hair is getting shorter and the long-hair phase is over. The styles have returned to those of the 1930s and 1940s.

Nobody wears sideburns any more. Hair is shaped to suit a man's personality, his features,

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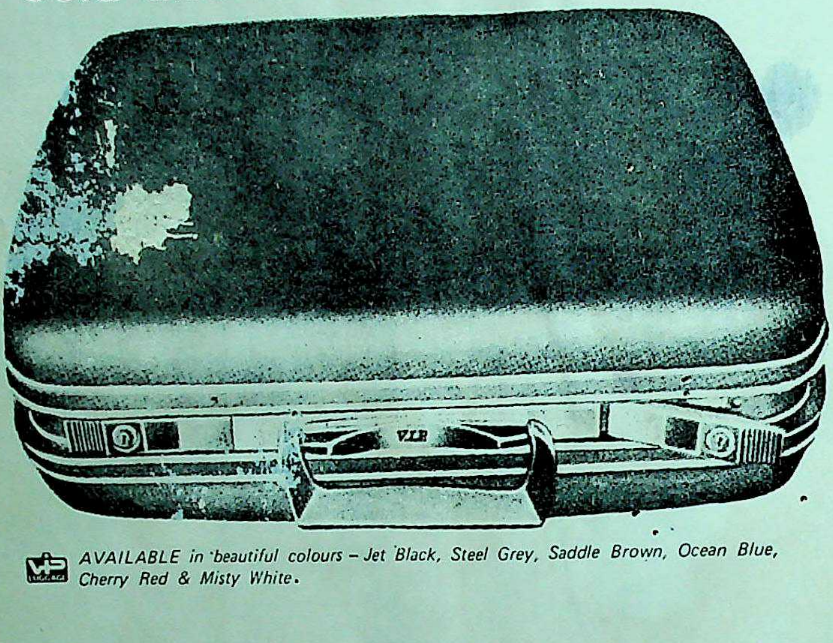

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even the quality of his hair. Hair conditioners are in demand, including certain proteins to give a glow to the hair.

Indian henna is the big thing now, though mixed with lemon and coffee.

In the West, men visit their hair-stylists twice a week to get their hair blow-dried. The price for a cut-and-dry is £3 and for a complete new look £7 to £10."

It is said that about a million rupees were spent on festivities that continued for about ten days. And the whole country laughed at the incident, including those who ate and drank at the hosts' expense.

If money was to be spent so lavishly, diamonds and furs were to be displayed or an impression was to be created, the parties concerned might have gone to New York or Rio De Janero or Rome or places where riches are no longer displayed as arm band, where social climate does not approve of wasteful expenditure and where even the most rich work hard to put on a posture of social purpose to all their activities. One has a right to spend one's money the way he or she wants: only it appears vulgar amidst certain types of social climates.

* * *

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HOUSE IN NEW DELHI

The International Students House, lodging 98 students, 71 of them foreign, is a virtual miniature world of young intellectuals from as many as 32 countries. This international hostel is a landmark in the university campus and is the most important institution in India that provides an opportunity of international student get-togethers.

The foreign students come from Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, Afghanistan, Iran, Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago, Angola, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana,, Rhodesia, Ethiopia, Palestine (Arab), Bahrain, the United Kingdom, Japan, etc. The greatest number comes from Thailand — 7. Iran, Afghanistan, Nepal, Mauritius, and Trinidad have four to five each, while Japan and the UK have one each. The total number of African students is 20.

Religious festivals of different communities, like Diwali, Idd, Christmas, are celebrated in the hostel and cultural programmes, seminars, and music and film shows are organised. Exhibitions of foreign dresses, art and paintings are also put up by the students. UN offices and foreign embassies and high commissions help in and partly finance the organisation of the programmes and shows.

Foreign Students

There are 98 single-seated rooms in all but most of the students have their guests; and thus the number of students is about 150. The quotas fixed for foreign and Indian students are in the ratio of 60:40 but in practice foreign students are more — 71 against 27 Indians. Why was the Indian quota not filled? Dr P. S. Sangal, warden of the hostel, says this relaxation in case of the foreign students was made in view of the immense hardship faced by them in getting accommodation elsewhere.

Some time ago a proposal was mooted to construct a 100-room second wing of the hostel but no action has so far been taken to implement it.

The criterion for admission in the case of foreign students is a recommendation from the Ministry of Education. Such students are Government of India scholarship holders. Besides, some private foreign students are also taken on merit. In the case of Indians, the first condition is that they should be post-graduate students. Of the 70-odd foreign students in the hostel only five or six are post-graduates.

For the last five or six years the mess charges have remained unchanged at Rs 105 even though the quality of food has been maintained. Against this change, the students get breakfast, lunch and dinner. For breakfast they get two eggs, bread, butter and tea. Meat is served daily during lunch as well as dinner. On Sundays chicken is also served.

Because the mess charges are not adequate even to cover the cost of the food, the salaries of the bearers and cooks have to be paid from the general fund provided by the University.

Apart from the mess charges, the students have to pay Rs 50 as room rent per month. There is no extra charge for electricity, water, etc. Admission fee is Rs 5. Besides Rs 5 is charged for health care once a year. Against this insignificant fee students are provided complete medical care free of charge. Students have to pay Rs 20 as hosted union fee at the time of admission. This fee is placed entirely at the disposal of the union and is spent on games and sports, newspapers and journals and functions and cultural programmes. Also each student has to deposit Rs 200 as caution money which is refundable.

The ISH is the only hostel where a separate room is provided to every student even at the undergraduate level. Every room is fitted with a ceiling fan and from this year geysers for heating water have also been provided.

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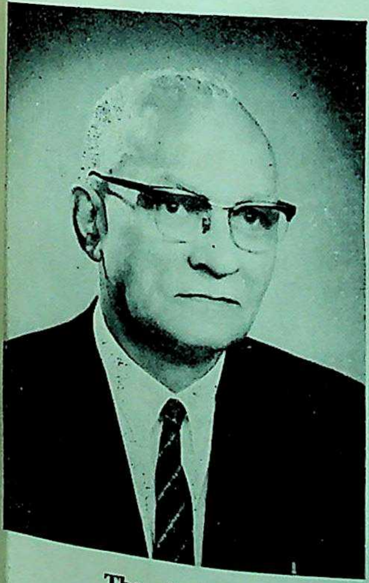
Kenya Asians During Uhuru Decade

1963 - 73

by Justice Chanan Singh



The Author

IT'S a long way from Ludhiana District in Punjab to Lancaster house in London, from weilding spanners and hammers in a loco shed as a fitter to balancing the scales of justice as a High Court judge. But Mr Justice Chanan Singh, an eminent Kenya Indian, has made the journey over seven decades.

Arriving in Kenya in 1923, he laboured in East African Railways during day and toiled at books at night. After London Matric, he went on studying privately upto degree level in transportation, passed the B.Sc. (Economics) degree from the London University and was called to the Bar.

A contiencious lawyer, prolific writer and balanced journalist, he soon entered politics and was elected twice to Parliament. He was in the forefront of the fight for independence as founder president of Kenya Freedom Party and co-worker with President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta.

After Kenya became free in 1963, he was nominated as a specially elected member and appointed parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Mzee Kenyatta. A year later, he was appointed to the judiciary as a High Court judge—a position he now holds with distinction.

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From Multir to non-racial society

Kenya has always had problems associated with plural society. During the colonial days, the problems were created by the racial attitudes of the ruling race. And we joined in the fight for bringing the end of colonialism. The ending of colonialism itself brought other problems for the Asians. There was, however, this difference. The problems of the colonial days were not of our making and we could always blame another group. The present-day problems cannot so easily be laid at the door of another group: we cannot escape blame altogether.

We had longed for a state of things under which people would be treated as individuals (as a true democracy) instead of being regarded as members of racial groups (as in a British colony). That longing was realised, but democracy required for its successful working that people change their ways of thinking and living which had evolved over decades. These could not possibly be changed over a few years.

To take one illustration: From 1948 to 1959, the number of Asian members of the Legislative Assembly increased from 5 to 15, of African from 4 to 25, Arabs from 2 to 5, and European from 27 to 46. The increase in Asian representation compared to the representation of other non-African races was higher. The reason was that we were the second largest among four racial groups that live in Kenya. At this point, political thinking started changing and the principle of regarding all persons as individuals began to be accepted. The result was that, instead of being regarded as one of the four races, we began to be regarded as 200,000 individuals in a nation of 10 to 12 millions. Today, there is only one Asian member in Parliament — there is a single European also. The reduction in the significance of racial groups was one reason for this fall. Other reasons were these:

(1) Following a universal practice, Kenya allows only Citizens to vote and to contest elections, and a great many Asians did not register as Citizens;

(2) The vast majority of voters being Africans, only those candidates can hope to succeed who have their support, and this type of Asian candidate is not coming forward;

(3) In any case, there is no reservation of seats, all seats being open to all Kenyans.

Perhaps, I should emphasise that the political institutions of the Asians had pressed for very many years for the introduction of Common Roll which, in modern terminology, means one-man-one-vote. Kenya now has a system of one-man-one-vote. At least the Asians cannot complain because they had asked for it and they had asked for a non-racial society in preference to a discriminatory society.

Decline in Asian population

Study the increase in the size of Asian population over the last 50 years:

Census year		(Asian) Population
1911	... ..	11,787
1921	... ..	25,253
1926	... ...	29,324
1931	.. ..	43,623
1948	.. ..	97,687
1962	.. ..	176,613
1969	.. ..	139,037

The highest total reached was believed to be around 192,000 when Asians started leaving the country. Today, the Asian population may be in the region of 120,000. The reasons for this decline after Independence were these. First, Kenya started making a distinction between citizens and non-citizens. A law was passed authorising the refusal of trade licences to non-citizens with the object of transferring the economy to citizens. This was to be done gradually. At intervals, notices to Quit were given to a number of non-citizen traders.

The recipients of the Notices were required to stop trading in the premises that they then occupied and such premises (and, in many cases, stock in trade also) were taken over by Citizens, largely by Africans, at an agreed price. Prices paid by Africans are believed to be reasonable and no Asian has lost money as a result of these transfers. What is lost is the change of making profits in future, but this was a risk taken by traders who did not register as Kenya citizens. The traders who received Notices could set up business in other premises. Many went into industry in a small way.

Non-Citizens employees in certain categories were required to obtain Immigration Permits if they wanted to continue in their jobs. These Permits were given for limited periods. Later still, certain categories of persons engaged in business were also required to take out Immigration Permits. As Permits or extended Permits expired, people had to move out of the country. By and large, these Asians were persons who had retained British Citizenship (i.e. citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies). And they went to England with their families and settled there.

Second, there were many who migrated to England without waiting for their Permits to ex-

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pire. This was possible during the first 4 or 5 years of Independence. England offered employment at better salaries. Men, women, and grown-up children could all get employment there. Cheap health services were available for all. Smaller children could get the cherished English education at practically no cost. Asian artisans left quite early because they were able to get work in England at much higher wages than they could ever hope to earn in Kenya. A small number of Asians (other than artisans) went to Canada, Australia, and other countries.

Thirdly, Asians had no experience of de-colonization and they were frightened when they found that a large number of Europeans were apparently ready to leave. The British Government provided funds to buy out European farms. The Asian businessmen (who were also British Citizens) were left to look after themselves. Senior civil servants (who were mostly Europeans) were paid by the British government large sums as compensation for loss of career.

This was refused to junior grades (to which Asians belonged), although, after a lot of agitation, a small additional pension was agreed to be paid to those whose jobs were 'Africanised.'

All this had the effect of reducing the Asians population. It should, however, be observed that Asians had always asked for equal citizenship rights. These were available for the asking immediately on Independence. The decision to retain British citizenship was in most cases deliberately made. A large proportion of people transferred their savings to England.

Lest there should be misunderstanding as to who were refused Immigration Permits or Trade Licences, I wish to make it clear hat the persons affected have been non-citizens. So far as citizens are concerned, the Constitution of Kenya does not allow discrimination against them on grounds of race, religion, etc.

There can be no discrimination even against non-citizens unless law expressly authorises it. An Asian non-citizen was refused a bar licence. He successfully appealed to the High Court because the law governing such licences did not permit discrimination.

Citizens are, of course, protected by the Constitution. Certain Asians who held stalls in the Municipal Market were given notices to quit to make room for Africans. The High Court held the notices invalid. In another case, the transport licensing authority had refused to renew the licence of an Asian company a majority of whose members were Citizens. The High Court decided that the refusal was unconstitutional.

Job-loss for Non-citizens

In the years since Independence, a large number of Asian public servants have been discharged from service. These were all non-citizens. It is true, however, that some years ago the Railway discharged a few Asians who were Citizens of Kenya. But the Railway is governed by a law made by the East African Community which authorises the discharge of non-Africans (irrespective of Citizenship) if Africans are available to fill the posts.

It is also true that, about the time the Railway discharged a few Asian Citizens, nearly 1.130 Asians voluntarily resigned their jobs in the various Departments of the Community (not the Kenya Government), as a result of a rumour which proved wholly without foundation.

It is not only the Kenya Government which has discharged non-citizen employees. The bigger concerns in the private sector have followed more or less the same policy. The results of this policy are summarised in the table below which show the numbers of Asians in employment and the total wages earned by them:

Asian Employment and Emoluments in Kenya

Year	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Total emoluments earned
	000's	000's	000's	£ million
1962	24.1	12.0	36.1	19.1
1963	27.0	11.9	38.9	21.4
1964	28.2	8.8	37.0	21.1
1965	28.9	9.5	38.4	22.8
1966	30.6	10.6	41.2	24.4
1967	29.3	8.5	37.8	27.4
1968	28.6	8.0	36.6	27.1
1969	24.0	7.4	31.4	26.2
1970	23.3	7.0	30.3	29.1
1971	20.9	6.4	27.3	28.0

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It is apparent from this table that the Asian employees, although their numbers have been reduced, have shared in the increasing prosperity of the country. This is also shown by the following table which shows that the proportion of Asians in higher-paid employment has been increasing:

Status of Asian Handicraft Exhibition

Monthly salary	Total in employment 1963	1971
Under 100 (shs)	209	351
100—149	42	37
150—199	106	232
200—299	410	332
300—399	626	666
400—599	1681	1731
600—999	5070	4251
1000—1499	6924	5548
1500—1999	1946	4481
2000 and over	1169	6639

These figures exclude casual employees and unpaid directors.

While there is no doubt about the policy concerning the employment of non-citizens, the reduction has been gradual so that no disruption of industry commerce has been caused Comparative figures for two recent years are readily available and I quote them below:

Numbers in Employment

Year	Citizens	Non-Citizens
1967	9,867	26,796
1971	10,600	14,700

One particular change should e mentioned. During the colonial eriod, a vast majority of the sians in employment were in he middle ranks of service, main-y as clerks and artisans. Promotion of Asians (and, of course, of Africans) into the senior ranks of public service or into the executive ranks in the bigger companies was not permitted. Exceptions started to be made to this principle when Independence came in sight. After Independence, the old colour-bar was removed. Fair numbers of Asians are today employed in senior services in the Judiciary, in the Legal Department, in the Ministry of Health, and in other Ministries. There are also Asian senior officers in the Police, the Air Force, and the Army. A large number of Asians are employed as teachers. The number of Asian teachers has always been large, but now the graduates of Asian universities are treated on par with British graduates. The most noticeable difference from the colonial days is that the Asian monopoly of clerical and artisans' jobs has been broken.

Overall Equalization

A few other directions of change may here be mentioned, although they do not affect Asians alone. Asians had from the early years of this century fought against the reservation of Highlands for Europeans. All restrictions on the ownership and occupation of land were removed by the Constitution of independent Kenya. Immediately, Asians who had money started buying wheat and coffee farms. This process slowed down later when it became necessary for non-citizens to obtain permission before buying agricultural land. I think I should add that the number of Asians owning land in the former Highlands remains small: not many had sufficient resources for the buying and running of farms. In the townships, however, a considerable number of Asians has bought houses and residential land in the hilly areas which were previously subject to restrictive covenants in favour of Europeans.

There were separate hospitals, schools, hotels, and clubs for each race. Asians had always asked for these to be thrown open to all races. This was done just before Independence. The result is that every person now makes use of the hospital or hotel or school or club according to his means. Asians (and African) have joined what were previously the most exclusive clubs. Their children attend the old European schools.

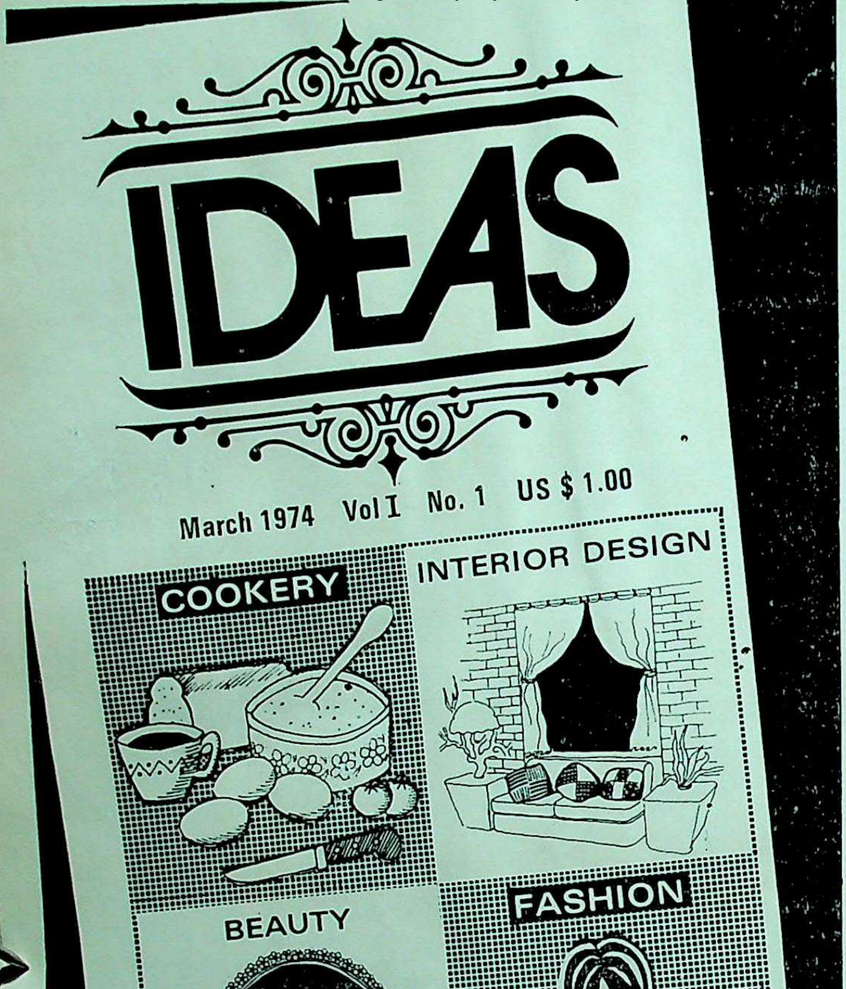
Asian Community Affairs

I have already mentioned the change that came with the new political set-up in Kenya. Now, for political purposes, the law looks at people as individuals, not as members of a particular race or religious group.

This new position would have been the natural result of the agitation carried on by Asians over a long period, if the colonial government had listened to reason but it decided to wait until the ferment in the African community and the sacrifices made compelled it to part with power. A few Asians also suffered with the Africans. The position was quickly reached—and this is the point I am making—when it appeared unnecessary and, in any case, unreasonable to organise and express racial view-points.

The Government of India had in the past supported the political demands of local Asians and had given them assistance and advice. This became inappropriate when India itself gained independence. For the same reason, prominent leaders of India who had helped local Asians by carrying on propaganda in India, by visiting Kenya for consultation on the spot, and by visiting England as occasion required gave up this part of their activity.

Inside Kenya, special political organisations of Asians became inappropriate. The Kenya Freedom Party, — non-racial by its constitution, multi-racial in composition, but a predominantly Asian group — dissolved itself when the Kenya African National Union opened its doors to non-Africans. The Kenya Indian Congress has existed on paper but, otherwise, seems defunct.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Address (Block letters) ____________

The Kenya Muslim League and the Central Sikh Council have not been heard of for many years and must have died a natural death.

The Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry which existed in all towns and their Federation were dissolved a few years ago.

The only Asian organisations now functioning are, by and large, religious bodies. Their membership has been reduced by the departure of Asians with foreign passports. Many of them own valuable buildings in commercial areas and have, therefore, no financial troubles. They frequently invite Ministers to their functions and receive encomiums. While their temples are used exclusively by Asians, the schools, which nearly all of them run, are attended by both African and Asian children. Most of these schools started taking African children after Independence.

This is one part of the change which will show fruit in the future in the form of inter-racial friendships.

There are a few Asian hospitals. These are open to all races but in-patients are mainly Asians, although quite a big proportion of the out-patients are Africans. Asians also run libraries and reading rooms in the main towns. The membership of these is open to all races but the reading rooms are used by both Asians and Africans and libraries mainly by Asians. Asian clubs exist all over Kenya and are now open to all races; most of them have discarded their sectional names; but a visitor gets the impression that they are exclusively Asian institutions. In fact, most of them were started by provincial or religious groups —e.g. Sikhs, Patels, Shahs, Kathiawadis, Muslims, Ismailis, Goans—and remain sections to all intents and purposes. Clubs patronised by all sections of the Asian community and bearing general names are few and far between. In smaller centres where there was no scope for more than one club common clubs have existed.

It is sometimes stated that Asians are unwilling to come out of their shell—rather, shells. Critics forget that minorities in every country tend to be secretive and suspicious. It is the majority that can afford to be open and generous. Asians are slaves of history. They are now a small minority. In the past, they were the second biggest racail group. Then, they though big and acted boldly. Their contribution to political thinking in this country is not inconsiderable. There is not a worthwhile principle in the democratic tradition which was not first propounded in this country by Asian leaders: common roll, non-racial public service, common schools, equal right to ownership and use of property, non-discriminatory society in general. Now, they are criticised for keeping to themselves, for not coming forward to transfer their businesses to 'Africans', for not attending public meetings. Does anyone know a trader anywhere in the world who voluntarily surrenders his source of profit? Again, no one stops to think what harm a one-percent minority can do to anyone by not attending meetings called by politicians. Asians do, however, attend national functions.

I am inclined to think inter-racial relations—which are better in Kenya than almost anywhere else in Africa—would have been easier still if the British Government had banned race discrimination, opened all schools to children of all races, introduced a common roll and a system of competitive examinations for entry to the public service, and conceded African right to Highlands twenty or thirty years earlier. Then, the mixing of races and the formation of friendship across the racial barrier would have started earlier.

The politician's criticism of the Asian is understandable. He is concerned with votes, but the Asian votes are so few that they cannot influence the result of any election. And there is nobody to reply to the critics. Once there were several papers, one of the functions of which was to defend the Asian community against attacks from politicians of other races. Now, sectional papers have disappeared, and the half a dozen politicians who, for some reason, indulge in the criticism of Asians have a free field.

The worst of it is that it is not only a few African politicians who criticise the Asian community. A new class of critic has come up recently. For example, Yash Ghai and Dharam Ghai say in their booklet *The Asian Minorities of East and Central Africa:* ". . . the Asian treatment of their servants has been generally scandalous, with abuse and indignities of ten heaped on them and basic minimal rights denied." Readers in India are aware of the views recently expresed by a European to Hinduism (Swami Agehananda Bharati) in the columns of the *Illustrated Weekly of India.*

The Asian community of Kenya has always been the victim of general condemnations of this type. Nevertheless, it has continued to lead a peaceful life in this country. It has continued to make and keep African friends. For the last ten years or so, Asian traders have been trading side by side with Africans and have been patronised by African customers. They have been living side by side with Africans in many residential areas.

There has been no trouble, no obvious ill-will. Asians have continued to employ African servants in their shops, offices, factories, and houses. No one can say that they have contavened the law more than other races have. I do not contend that they are model employers.

But can anyone say that they are worse employers than Africans themselves?

Can anyone say that no European has ill-treated his servant?

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Festivals of Indians

Mahashivratri

Mahashivratri which usually falls in the month of February/ March, is a festival celebrated in honour of Lord Shiva and is known as "Shiva's great night". A night of strict vigil precedes the feast, and to help the devout keep awake, katha groups are organised, when the greatness of Shiva is expounded.

It is believed that anyone worshipping Shiva on this occasion is to be released from the cycle of birth and rebirth, and is granted material prosperity and paradise.

Shiva worship is an ancient custom in India. Shiva is also the diety of several aboriginals tribes. Lord Shiva is generally represented as an ascetic sitting on a tiger skin, with snakes coiled round his blue neck, his hair and body. He has a third eye in the centre of his august forehead, and a crescent moon rests on his head. His abode is the high mountain, Kailasa, in the Himalayas, and his mount is the sacred bull, Nandi. Shiva is also worshipped in the form of a Linga representing the power behind creation. He is also know as Shiva-nataraja, lord of the dance, and is a dancer without parallel in the entire universe.

Some of the devotees believe that Shiva embodies the universe, and therefore he is worshipped in the form of the five elements which make up the universe—air, water, earth, ether and fire.

Man started indulging in worship to secure protection and solace to his restless soul. He was frightened at the very sight of nature's wrath. In the same way, man was stunned to see the nature's abundance, variety and the power of creation and destruction. He started praying humbly to these powers; the power of destruction and that of creation i.e. Lord Shiva.

When Aryans came to India, they were originally the worshippors of Lord Vishnu—the protector, the saviour, and the origin of Brahma the creator.

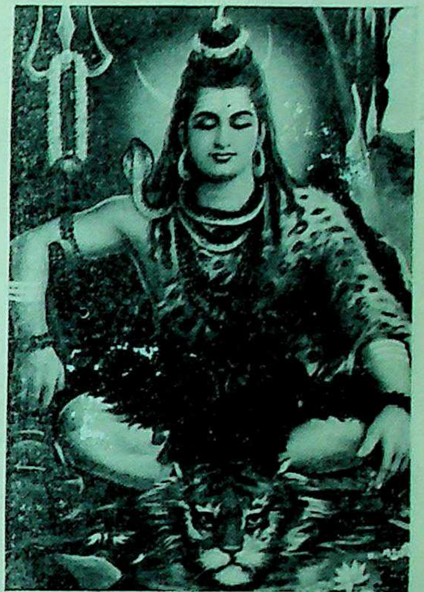
The Aryans accepted the main dieties of the aboriginals of the land, and thus nature worship got a place of pride in their traditions and prayers. Shiva worship is accepted by Aryans as well, and Shiva was accorded the status of Mahadeo—the geratest of the great God who controls the forces of destruction.

by

Priyalata Pal

Lord Shiva is endowed with a power of great sensitive nature. He can be pleased only by genuine and sincere worship, irrespective of the fact whether the worshipper may be a sinner, a demon or a bad character. The devotion of mind and unending praise pleases this diety and brings to the devotees best rewards. Shiva worship is done in all corners of the country—North, South, East or West—Shiva temples are found every where in India whether it is a big town or a small village.

Shiva pooja is also carried on beyond the shores of India. The well known Pashupati temple in Nepal is the centre of Shiva worship. Apart from this temple, the other well known Shiva temples in India are the Somnath temple in Saurashtra, Kedarnath temple in the Himalayas, Babulnath temple in Bombay, and the Shivling temple at Amarnath in Kashmir. This festival has a special significance in Kashmir where it lasts for about 15 days. The thirteenth day known as Herath, is observed as a day of fast followed by a family feast.



Lord Shiva

Millions of people observe Mahashivratri on the eve of the no moon day, in the month of Magh, that is in winter. Katha, Kirtan, offering of flowers and prasad are the main features of the puja. The mortals invoke Shiva, not only for wordly benefits, but also for the realization of Moksha.

Colourful fairs are held at sanghams and other water fronts during Shivratri and bathing in the river water on that day is a common sight in the villages. Temples and public places buzz with religious activity on this auspicious day.

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Indians Abroad

SIERRA LEONE

Diwali

To mark the Diwali celebration, the Sierra Leone Gurdwara Committee took the lead this year to organise on the 4th November 1973, 'A Diwali Picnic Party' at one of the lovely Freetown beaches known as "River Two" beach. A majority of the Indian community participated in the picnic and entertained themselves to a variety of programmes. The ladies played rummy to their hearts' content. There were musical chairs competitions for the young ones, ladies and gentlemen as well. Fireworks and swimming in the cool waters of Freetown beach was a great fun.

Visitor from Monrovia

Mr S. S. Bhattal, President of the Indian Association, Monrovia, was in our midst during his business visit to Sierra Leone. The Freetown Indian Mercantile Association took the opportunity to invite Mr Bhattal to the November Session of the Association's Council Meeting.

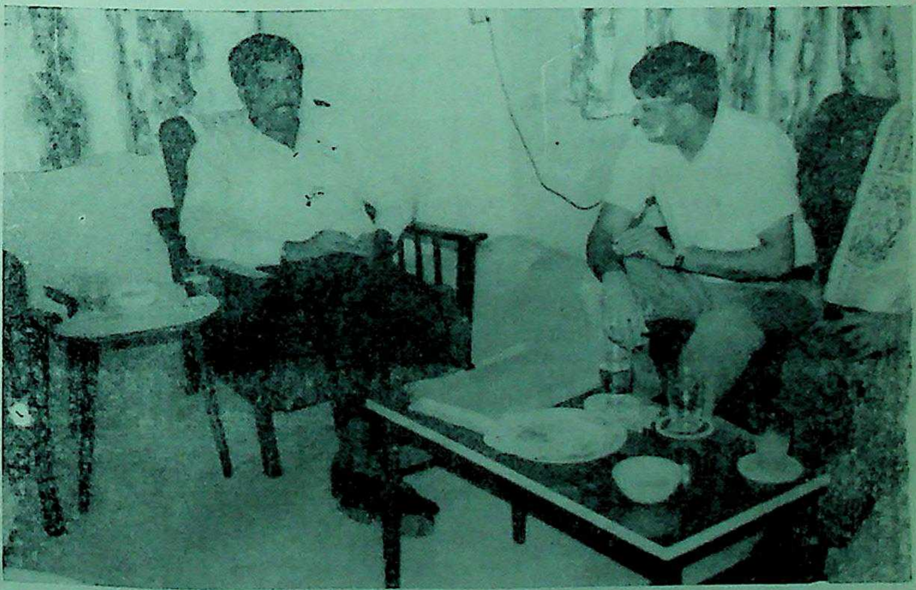
Mr S. S. Bhattal while thanking the President and the Council acquinted the Association of the activities of the Indian Association at Monrovia and problems and business conditions prevailing there which were very interesting.

—Nanik Baharani

Diwali Picnic

Executive Councillors of the Indian Mercantile Association, Sierra Leone.

Community Business



Mr S. S. Bhattal, President, Indian Association, Monrovia (left) in discussion with a local V.I.P.

AUSTRALIA

India's gain . . . Sri Lanka's new envoy

If Australia won the genial "Punch" Coomaraswamy in the game of diplomatic musical chairs ('The Indian' issue of August '73), India has not been far behind.

Mr Justin Siriwardene, till last month Sri Lanka's High Commissioner in Canberra is taking over in New Delhi this month, from Mr N. Q. Dias, as his country's envoy.

Intense, voluble, and with an engaging enthusiasm, Mr Siriwardene is a man who believes that there is an "age-old affinity between India and Sri Lanka".

Mr Justin Siriwardene
Sri Lanka's New Envoy to India

Although not a career-diplomat, Mr Siriwardene feels that "diplomacy should be used for strengthening cultural, socio-economic and political ties between the two countries".

Back home in Sri Lanka, Mr Siriwardene has been associated with many private business interests, as well as, the Sri Lanka National Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Products Regulation Board. He is the founder-director of Chatham House an organisation which sponsored the completion of the Colombo Electricity Supply, the Colombo Assurance Ltd and Sri Lanka Hotels Ltd. He has also been involved in projects as diverse as a re-settlement scheme, a dam and textile works.

For a person who has such a wide range of pursuits and involvements, coupled with his compelling interest in India, Mr Siriwardene's new post should prove rewarding.

Life, Mr Siriwardene told me in an exclusive interview, is made up of Moments and it looks as if this one could be what he has been waiting for. He has been candid enough to admit that "an honour has been bestowed upon me by my Prime Minister, Mrs Sirimav Bandaranaike."

Fantasy and riotous colour . . . essence of Indian Art Exhibition

An exhibition of contemporary Indian Paintings was held at the Fantasia Gallery in Canberra, this month.

Many of the fine works in this exhibition were riddled with a sense of fantasy and poulence.

Four of the seven artists .... K. M. Adimoolam, P. Krishnamurthy, K. Sreenivasulu and R. B. Bhaskaran .... were very vivid in their approach to subjects.

The artists represented only by rather small easel paintings showed a control and approach not unrelated to certain Antipodean artists.

Boyd, Nolan, Tucker, Percival and Blackman used a similar degree of romantic and primitive symbolism in their works, and it seems that the aim of these Indian artists was to justify man's place in the world with a search for symbols both past and present.

The Director of the F Gallery, Susan Gillespie, exa a papier-mache sculpture, wi of the Indian Paintings as ba

Adimoolam paints f Chagall-like animals upsid in an ethereal space. 'M shows an emerald-gree buried in a mound of P blue.

It is a strangely co image; morbid and blu brushy strokes. 'Fantas 'Sun Falling Ahead' bot airborne animals in u situations and are totally ing and beautiful.

P. Krishnamurthy pa blackened paper stretch canvas. His chalky-whi ky figures and creatures floral paradise relate Indian folklore than migh pected.

Still, there are oddly b figures and pink horses r bizarre situations. B directness and rhythm is ed contrast to the tradi rigid compositions of pa miniature painting.

Bhaskaran's painting Freedom' shows a si dark-grey bird on a re hill. All is enclosed in brushed and textured b der and the stark heightened even furthe clear white island of white which surrounds both bird and hill.

A single yellow-green ellipse hovers below to complete the enigma.

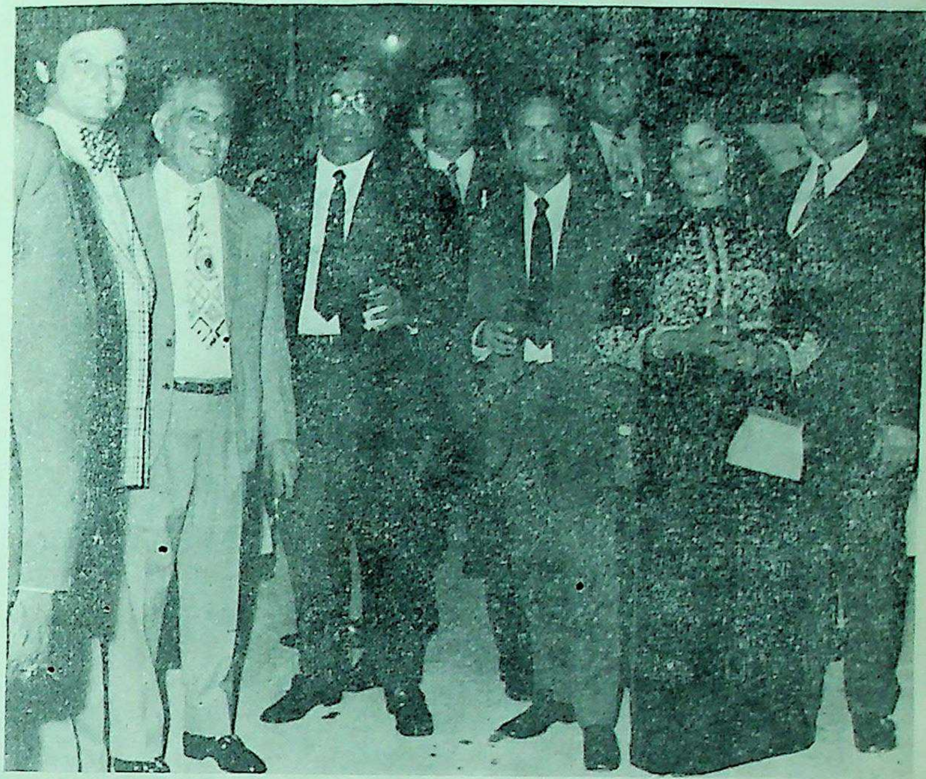
Only one work seemed specifically Indian in its elaborateness. This was a beaten-relief with depicting stars, eyes, birds and colour added by Sreenivasulu bells interwoven into a complex and startling unity.

Also on display were a selection of handcrafts including papier-mache sculpture, dolls, hand carved ivory chess sets, traditional and modern wall hangings, antique jewellery, brassware and silks.

This exhibition was representative of work exhibited in the past and a taste of works to be presented in the future.

—Rama Gaind.

Lebanese Independence Day



Picture taken at a reception to mark Lebanese Independence Day. L to R: Mr Nazir Hassaniyigh, Mr N. Samtani, Mr Melwani, Mr Nanik Baharani, acting Indian High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, Mr D. P. Sasricha, Mr P. Choithram, Mrs Sunita Brown and Mr Brown.

TRIPOLI / LIBYA

Nehru's birthday celebrations

Pandit Nehru's great qualities and virtues were extolled at a largely attended 84th Birth Anniversary Celebrations at the Embassy of India on 14th November including the presence of all Arab and other Ambassadors.

Ambassadors of France, Egypt, Yugoslavia and Iraq paid the highest tributes to Panditji's outstanding contributions to freedom movements not only in India but all over the world, to the growth of democracy and processes of socialism.

Particular tributes were paid to Mr Nehru's initiative and vigorously developing a concept of non-alignment and international cooperation, fearless fight on behalf of the oppressed people of world, passionate love of peace and high values of life.

Mahatma Gandhi's birthday

A largely attended meeting was held on the premises of the Indian Embassy on the evening of 2nd October which marked the 104th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It was attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps and various other members of the Indian community.

Addressing the meeting, Dr Omar Shebani, Rector of the Tripoli University, who had visited India in November 1970, traced the highlights of Gandhiji's life. He spoke of the great contribution Mahatma Gandhi had made towards achieving freedom in India and towards liberation movements and freedom oppression and championing the cause of the poor, removal of discrimination, all over the world. He stressed on his great humility and humanity.

India's latest cargo vessel on maiden voyage to Tripoli

India's latest cargo ship "Vishva Umang", an acquisition of the Shipping Corporation of India, made its first voyage out of India and selected Tripoli (Libya) as the first foreign port to be visited.

The Ship is one of the most modern cargo vessels which is well suited for transporting cargo in unit loads, i.e. containers, pallets and pre-slung units. It is technically most interesting.

The length of the vessel is 511 feet. The draft is 25 feet.

There is a directly sailing service to Tripoli from Indian ports.

INDONESIA

Friendly bite

Mr & Mrs Guru K. Gurbani (of M/s. Veekay) celebrated their 7th Wedding Anniversary on the 21st Jan. 1974. In the picture, Mrs Mohini Guru is seen taking a bite off the cake offered by Mr Kanayo N. Nanwani. Loking on (from left to right) are: Mrs Gopi K. Nanwani, Mr Guru K. Gurbani, Mrs Saveeta Gope (partially) and Mr Gope K. G. Also seen are the 2 daughters of Mr & Mrs Guru K. Gurbani, Gitu and Anju.

Wedding Anniversary

Mr & Mrs Guru K. Gurbani's Wedding Anniversary happens to coincide with the Birthday of Mr Guru's sister-in-law, Mrs Saveeta Gope K. Thus, the two happy occasions were celebrated simultaneously. They are seen posing together (from left to right): Mr Guru K. Gurbani, Mrs Mohini Guru, Mr Gope K., Mrs Saveeta Gope, Mr Ramesh and Mrs Kishordas, the mother of Mr Guru. In the centre are the two children of Mr & Mrs Guru K. Gurbani, Gitu and Anju.

Jakarta Wedding

Mis Beenu Mahtani, daughter of Mrs Raj Sham Mahtani, of Jakarta, was married to Saju Nanwani, son of Mr and Mrs Shankardas D. Nanwani of Singapore, on the 13th Dec. 1973. The Wedding Reception was held at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Singapore.

—Sangeeta Ram.

India's contribution to Malay language and culture

The death recently in Kuala Lumpur of the Grand Old Man of Malay Letters, Tan Sri Zainal Abidin bin Ahmad at the ripe old age 78, reminds one of India's tremendous contribution to Malay language and culture. For, the great Malay (native Muslim) scholar, popularly known at Za'ba (short for Zainal Abidin) had, besides being honoured with doctorates of Letters (D. Litt.) by several universities, enjoyed the unique distinction of being the only Malay to be awarded during his lifetime the most coveted title of "Pendita" by the All Malaya Malay Language and Literature Congress held in 1956.

"Pendita"—which Malays use to denote a sage, is as any Indian knows, a Sanskrit term. There are innumerable other expressions which are of Sanskrit origin. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that almost 75 per cent of the words in Malay are Indian in origin, mostly derived from Sanskrit, while the balance is made up of Arabic and Persian words, and of course Malays' own indigenous expressions. In- eed, most of the terms denoting r reflecting the civilised way of fe, such as religion, philosophy, rt, literature, science, government, statecraft, trade and commerce, are of Indian origin.

A few words cited at random will be enough to illustrate this: *aja, menteri, negara, kapala, udhi, chinta, bichara, sakshi, umi, samudra, manushya, duku, sa, jiwa, nadi, bahasa, guru, uku, dusta, satru, gaja, garuda, akshi, serigala,* . . . . like that it oes on endlessly the Indian ocabulary in Malay language. o, obviously no title could have een more appropriate for the oted Malay scholar Za'ba than *endita* or *pundit*.

New Home For MIC

The Malaysian Indian Congress has built a new head quarters for itself. The Prime Minister and his wife came for inauguration.

Gandhi Memorial Trust

It is also very gratifying to note that the Gandhi Memorial Trust in Kuala Lumpur is going ahead with many projects for the propagation of Gandhiji's teachings. Its chairman Mr P. P. Narayanan announced recently that the Trust would put up a M$1 million building in Jalan Lornie, Kuala Lumpur. The six storey building will have a hall, a library and other amenities "for launching Gandhian ideas, ideals and programmes."

Mr Narayanan, who is also the secretary-general of the largest trade union in Malaysia, the national union of Plantation workers, further disclosed that an Indo-Malaysian joint firm, JG Containers Sdn. Bhd., has agreed to donate five acres of land in Shah Alam industrial estate near Klaug to the Gandhi Memorial Trust. He said the Trust had plans to build a technical training centre on the site. The Trust had been sending students overseas especially to India, for technical training, but it is hoped to train them in the proposed institute in future.

Meanwhile, the Second Gandhi Memorial Lecture organised by the Trust was recently delivered by Indonesian Foreign Minister Mr Adam Malik at the Dewan Tengku Abdul Rahman in Kuala Lumpur. The meeting attended by no fewer than 1,500 people including cabinet ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, community leaders and others, was presided by the Malaysian Minister of Home Affairs and Information, Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie. Mr Malik spoke on Gandhian principles in relation to modern developments and spelled out in detail Indonesia's views on South-East Asian priorities today and on ASEAN's neutralisation proposal. "It is the Gandhian principle of self-relianed that essentially underlines ASEAN's desire to develop South-East Asia into a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality," he said.

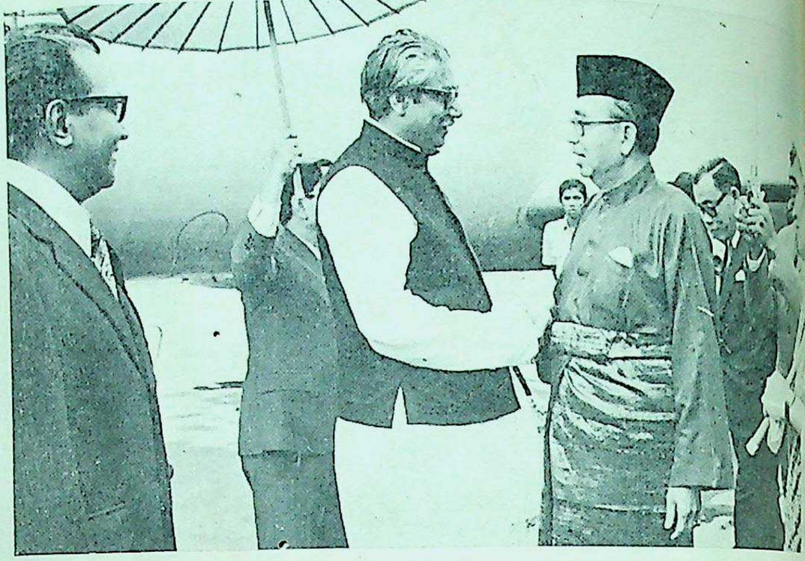
After the lecture, prizes were presented to the winners of an essay competition on the subject of "Peace through Non-Violence —its application to a multi-racial society" (as in Malaysia).

Bangladesh leader in Kuala Lumpur

Banglabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman made a three-hour stop at Kuala Lumpur on his way back home from Japan. The Bangladesh Prime Minister, who was accompanied by his Foreign Minister Dr Kamal Hossain and the Deputy Chairman of Bangladesh Planning Commission Dr Nurul Islam, was met on arrival by Malaysian Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak, Defence Minister Datuk Hamzah Abu Samah, Bangladesh High Commissioner Mr Zamiruddin Ahmad, the Indian High Commissioner Mr A. K. Dar, and representatives of other foreign missions.

Sheikh Mujib and party then proceeded to Seri Taman, the official residence of the Prime Minister where both the Prime Ministers discussed matters of mutual interest. They were then joined by other cabinet ministers to break the fast.

Sheikh Mujib in Kuala Lumpur



On arrival at Kuala Lumpur, Sheikh Mujib was welcomed by Tun Ra It was a good will stop-over.

Iftar at Kuala Lumpur

Sheikh Mujib and his group joined their Malaysian counter parts for I (breaking the fast) during the Ramzan month.

Aurobindo Society in Singapore

Singapore, too, has not been legging behind in forging close cultural links with India. Recently, the Aurobindo Society which is in charge of the unique Auroville project in Pondicherry, South India, has named Singapore as its regional headquarters for Southeast Asia and the Far East right up to and inclusive of Japan and China. This announcement was made by the Secretary General of Aurobindo Society from Pondichery, Sri Navajata, at a largely attended meeting of the newly formed Singapore branch of the Society at Trade Union House in the Republic. The meeting was chaired by Mr C. V. Devan Nair, Auroville representative in Singapore and adviser to the local Aurobindo Society. The president of the Society, Mr Tay Joo Teck, a local architect, and secretary Mr Seah Mui Kok, Member of Parliament, were also present.

Sri Navajata, a former Bombay textile tycoon who twenty years ago turned over all his textile mills to the Aurobindo Society and who has been working for it ever since—spoke at length on its aims and objects and on setup of the Auroville international self-contained township designed to units mankind and prepare them for the next phase in human evolution as envisaged by Sri Aurobindo after whom it is named. He suggested various projects such as educational, tural, physical, inform publicity and the like for Singapore branch of the S to launch for the benefit of bers here and elsewhere.

Mr Devan Nain, who is secretary general of the p Singapore National Trades Congress, in his introduct marks, called to the audie try to tanslate Sir Auro ideals into practice and th

Dr Avtar Singh Sandhu receiving insignia of Johan Setia Mahkota from the king of Malaysia.

develop themselves into better individuals and communities. Referring to the Aurobindo Society, Mr Nair admitted it was not a mass movement but only meant for those who felt a genuine desire for what he described as an "inner change" within themselves and such people were welcome to identify themselves with the society.

Earlier, Sri Navajata also addresed a public meeting at the Ramakrishna Mission Hall in Bartley Road. There also the meeting was presided over by Mr Devan Nair. Sri Navajata said the Auroville project in Pondicherry has already made a splendid start with a small population which was eventually expected to reach 50,000. The international township now boasts of a dairy farm, a small printing press, dispensary and such other facilities and enjoys the backing of UNESCO and other world organisations, according to the Society's secretary general. He said the model township is aimed at bringing together peoples from all over the world in a self contained, self sufficient community where no wages are paid, and every one works for the common good of all.

A pictorial exhibition of Auroville was held at the Mission hall in conjunction with the public meeting.

—G. S. Muthukrishnan.

AFGHANISTAN

Indian artistes given warm welcome

Indian artistes visiting Afghanistan under the Indo-Afghan Cultural Agreement, were warmly received by officials of the Ministry of Information and Cultural and Afghan artists.

In a speech of welcome at their first performance on December 1 which was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Sharq, Cabinet Ministers, members of the diplomatic corps and high-ranking military and civil officials, the Minister for Information and Culture highlighted the age-old cultural ties between India and Afghanistan.

The Prime Minister of Afghanistan and the Indian Ambassador in conversation during intermission of a programme given at Kabul by a visiting Indian troupe.

The Indian Ambassador, Shri Mehta, described Afghanistan and India as proud heirs to the fusion of culture which had taken place over centuries. He also praised the new cultural policy based on the supreme and lofty ideals of the Republican regime aimed at improving cultural, educational and aesthetic standards of the Afghans.

The programme included kathak dance items by Kumudini Lakhia, ghazals and thumris by Kamal Dishu and Atul Desai and performance on tabla by Vinod Kumar.

Atma's praise for Kabul audience

Noted singer Chandru Atma, made a 15-day tour of Afghanistan, found the audience there knowledgeable and appreciative.

Chandru, often described as the 'voice of Saigal' for his soulful rendering of popular Saigal songs, gave 12 programmes in Kabul.•

Invited by the president of the Kabul Textile Mill to give a performance to mark the inauguration of the mill, Chandru was specially invited by Radio Kabul.

The radio interviewed him and broadcast his songs during the one hour Urdu programme.

Chandru said that most of his songs, including his non-film song 'Chanchal nain tihare', were highly acclaimed by the audience. India's Ambassador K. I. Mehta attended one of his performances.

Mr Chandru Atma

KENYA

Asian quota increased

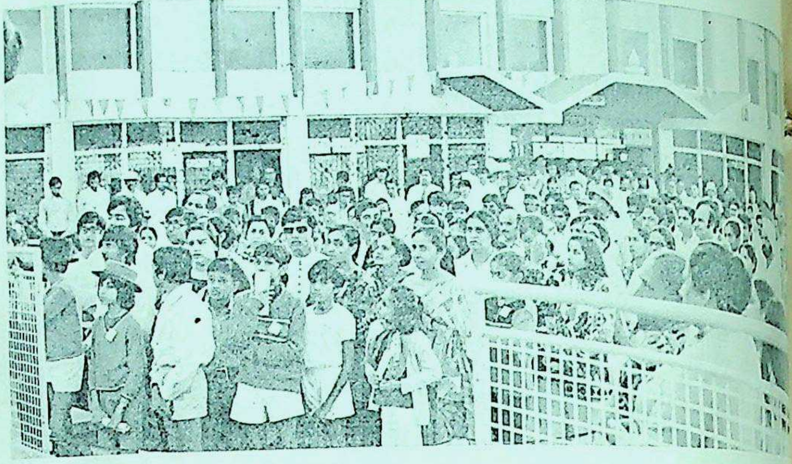
The increase in quote of entry vouchers for British Asians in Kenya was welcomed by British High Commission sources and Hindu Council of Kenya. British sources said here substantial increase is very happy outcome of continuous dialogue between Kenya and the British governments. Declining to give figures of increase he added, it should do much to ease waiting time of applicants. Increased quota would be implemented by end of year, he added. A Hindu Council spokesman said the increase would greatly help to alleviate the problems of the people concerned.

Hindu charity walk

The wife of Kenyan Foreign Minister, Mrs Lillian Njeri Mungai flagged off charity walk organised by Hindu Council of Kenya recently. Hundreds of Indians and some Africans participated in the walk aimed to raise funds for local selfhelp projects and Hindu Council charities and Ethiopian Famine Relief. Speaking at the start, Mrs Mungai said, "It is gratifying to learn Asians were interested to serve poor in Kenya and were celebrating tenth Anniversary of Independence in this befitting manner."

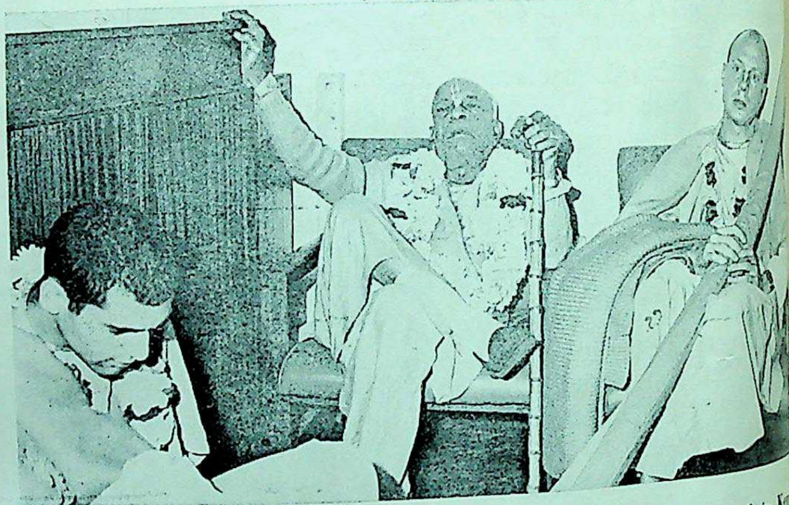
Thanking them for their good work she said, "Your efforts to continue social and economic development are very much appreciated by all those with interest of Kenya at heart." Sponsored by the Hindu Council of Kenya, the walk is estimated to collect one lakh shillings for national self help projects, the poor and the Council Administration.

Charity Walk



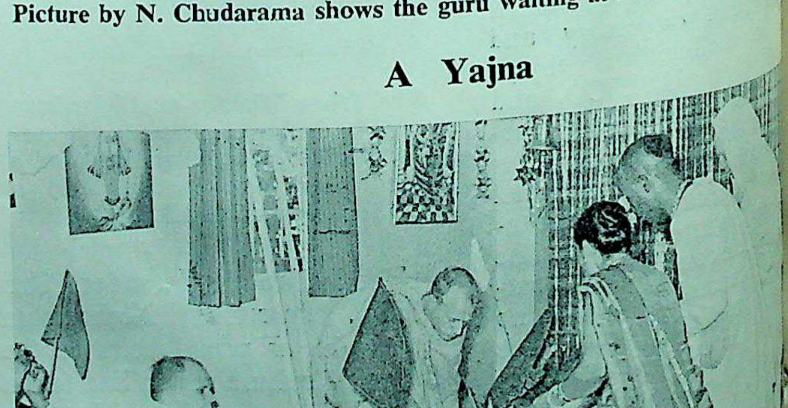
Some of the hundreds of Asian participants who took part in the cha walk listen to Mrs Mungai. (photo by Gurjender Singh)

Denied Entry



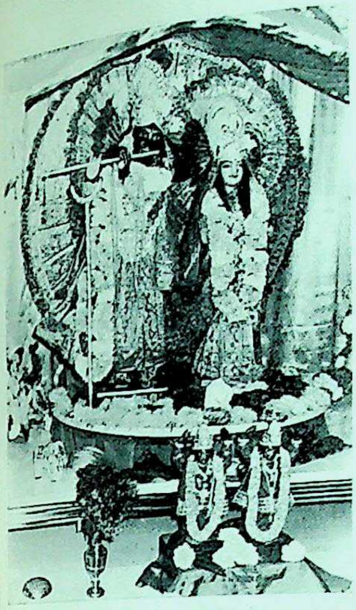
The 'Hare Krishna' guru Swami Prabhupad was denied entry into K when he flew in to install dieties in the newly finished Krishna Te Picture by N. Chudarama shows the guru waiting at Nairobi airport.

A Yajna



Swami Brahmanand performs the 'Yajna' at the installation ceremon the Hare Krishna temple, Nairobi. (photo by Gurjender Singh)

Dieties Installed



The dieties of Radha & Krishna in the new Hare Krishna temple in Nairobi. (photo by Gurjender Singh)

President Kenyatta

The Chairman of Bank of Baroda, Mr V. D. Thakkar presents a tea set to President Kenyatta when he called on him during his working holiday in Mombasa. Looking on from L to R are: Mr H. B. Nadkarni, manager, Bank of Baroda, Mombasa branch, Mr S. L. Desai, manager, Bank of Baroda, Kenya branch, the President, ADC partly hidden, Mr Duncan Ndegwa, governor of Central Bank of Kenya and Coast Provincial Commissioner Mr Eliud Madihu. (photo by Kul Bhushan)

Kenya's Minister for Commerce and Industry, Dr Gikonyo Kiano, said here recently that steps have been taken to ensure that businesses in Kenya are not concentrated in a few hands and that wealthy Kenyan traders do not grab everything. Applicants without any businesses will get preference in allocation of businesses presently under quit notices and owned by non-citizens. In the past, the urgency of transferring businesses into African hands led to some people getting three or more businesses said Dr G. Kiano.

A Uganda Asian girl married to Ugandan African has made desperate appeal in Sunday Nation's agony column beseeching her husband to contact her. The twenty nine year old Ugandan Asian girl met Uganda African studying with her in Bombay in 1969. On returning to Uganda, they married after she ran away from home. After a happy married life, one day, the husband disappeared with all the cash. After futile attempts to trace him, she has left Mombasa for Bombay and appeals "My love knows my Bombay address and will write if alive. My love, I was happy in your union. When you write me we will stay in Bombay."

The spiritual leader and founder of Worldwide Hare Krishna movement, Swami A. C. Bhagtivedenta Prabhupad and two followers were denied entry into Kenya by the immigration authorities at Embakasi Airport recently when saffron clad Swami flew in from Bombay. No reason was given but Home Affairs Ministry confirmed the ban. Followers of the Swami who have temple here went to airport with garlands and velvet covered seat to great their guru. But his much publicised ten day visit with posters plastering city and advertisements in newspapers never started. Instead he left for London at about lunchtime. Commented local head of Hare Krishna sect "It's Krishan's will."

But the ten-day Hare Krishna festival went ahead here despite denial of entry to movement's guru Swami Prabhupad. More than five hundred people turned up for lecture, kirtan and film show after Hare Krishna leader and two followers flew out to London. A huge banner across Nairobi's main street, Kenyatta Avenue, still welcomed the guru and announced the festival during which dieties of Radha and Krishna are installed in new temple in a Nairobi suburb.

—**Kul Bhushan**

SPAIN

Torremolinos

Toremolinos in short

The first Indian to start business, according to information available were owners of Taj Mahal Stores. Presently, there are nearly 80 shops of almost every capacity and standard, firms having 4 to 5 shops, mostly individuals with 15 to 150 square metre shops, mostly dealing with gift and souvenir items, except one recently opened supermarket. The existing shopping centers are La Nogalera and Centro Commercial Espana, each of them having nearly 50 shops and within few months there will be three more centers namely El Congresso, San Enrique and Centro Enter Plaza with total capacity of nearly 800 more shops. There is one most popular and old pedestrian shopping street by the name of San Miguel having nearly 150 shops of almost anything required by a tourist, starting with usual street bar to typical foggy dim spanish bar supplying live guitar music and in between are shops of real leather goods, typical spanish jewellery "Toledo" and cosmetics. Almost all banks have their branches in this street.

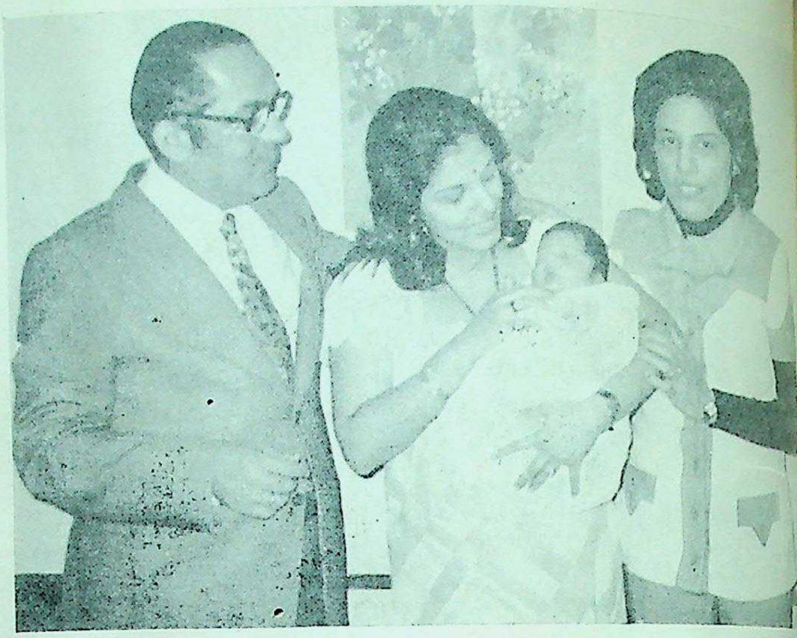
Airport is only 7 kilo metres far from Plaza Costa del sol and Malaga sea port is 15 km. away. Places to visit are many out of which one should not miss internationally known Tivoli Gardens, House of Wax and of course long sandy beach which is very suitable for care-free swimming.

Torremolinos has lovely coast, with a benevolent climate. There is sun on Torremolinos almost all year around, the average temperature in August—the hottest month—is 83°F and in January it is 54°F which is the coldest month of year.

In food one should not miss "Pacella" which is found in nearly every restaurant. Pacella has the base of fried rice with very many ingredients such as craw fish, prawns and mussels all in their shells, then pork, chicken, squid, hake, tomato, onion, pimento, peas and finally flavoured with saffron. It is served in a metal pan and with it goes dry red wine. Then one should try white-bait fried in flour called "Chanquetes" roast suckling goat, squid cut into rings and fried in batter called "Calamares a la romana". And if one likes to have a long pleasant drink then ask for "Sangria", it is red wine diluted with soda-wat flavoured with Coco-cola, br cointreau and gin. Piec orange, lemon and apple ar ed on one's request.

If one is a good eat wishes to live longer and h then come to Torremolin have good weather and yards of golf course with score of 70, we do retail b on small scale therefore, c tension. May we look f to seeing you.

—Gul P.



Mr & Mrs Mohan Melwani were blessed with their son on 29th Novem 1973, photo shows grand parents Mr & Mrs Ghourshan G. Uttamchand with Mrs Duru Mohan Melwani in centre and new born Munesh.

It is Bharati Mohan's birth-day. In photo are Mohan & Bharati with M (Shiva), Sangeeta (Mona Lisa) & Kavita (Le Souvenir).

TURKEY

Indian Handicrafts Displayed

An interesting collection of Indian handicrafts from various parts of India was displayed at the residence of the Indian Ambassador to Turkey. The function entitled an "Indian Afternoon" was hosted by Mrs Usha Narayanan, wife of the Ambassador, in cooperation with the National Council of Women's Association of Turkey.

Mrs Narayanan, wife of the Indian Ambassador in Turkey, with Mrs Bayulken, wife of the Foreign Minister of Turkey.

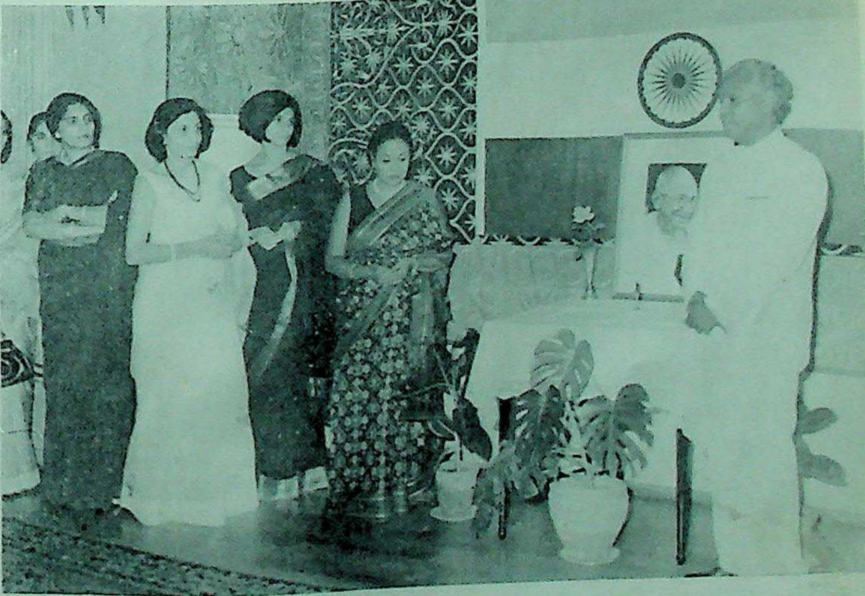
Welcoming the guests, Mrs Narayanan said that the Exhibition and films were intended to show a bit of life in India, specially that of women. She added that the world has passed through many changes and revolutions and that to her mind the most profound and beneficient of them was the awakening of women. She added that one might say that the world was entering a new era—the era of women, of women's freedom and equality, of women's responsibility to society.

Thanking the hostess, Mrs Firdevs Mentese, President of the Council, said that her members and guests were delighted at the wonderful exhibition of Indian handicrafts and the films on India, which followed the reception.

Colourful Artifacts

The entrance to the main hall was decorated by two Dwarpala (protectors of household) statuettes, and flanked by an illuminated Batik and a painting from the Mughal era which saw a renaissance of the ancient arts of India. In the exhibition room, the portraits of a Rajput Raja and his wife, hung over the exhibits from Rajasthan—dolls, vases and tie-dyed fabrics of many colours. The colourful *Tilla* handiwork of Kerala and the wood-carved elephants, along with a statuette of a Kathakali dancer from Kerala vied with *Jamvar* floral designs on shawls and lacquered *papier macho* work from Kashmir on table lamps, powder boxes and articles of every day use. Sandalwood products from Mysore, leather handbags from Shantiniketan (University founded Rabindranath Tagore), lacquered wooden trays from Bihar, metalware from Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), the famous silk and brocade saris of Varanasi and numerous artifacts like ivory figurines, beautifully designed table decorations, ladies' sandals, etc. were on display on tables under a wall to wall crimson-coloured carpet richly worked in gold thread. Miniatures, Batiks and ivory products decorated the reception hall along with an exquisite Nandi bull in marble, beautifully worked Khajuraho heads of Siva and Parvati, and outstanding examples of wooden panel work.

Documentary films on India, "On the Move", "Feminine Fashions" and Invitation to an Indian Wedding", were followed by a film on "Women of India", showing women of independent India taking part in different activities, were screened to the appreciative audience. The Indian savouries served with Indian tea included the sweets, Barfi and Sheker Pare, and Kabab, Muruku and samosa. Books on India distributed to the audience included "Ataturk and Gandhi" by Dr R. K. Sinha, the autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi, Turkey's tribute to Gandhi during the Birth Centenary Year (1969) all in Turkish—and information and tourism literature in Turkish and English.



Ambassador K. R. Narayanan is seen addressing the gathering at his residence —(from right) the Ambassador, Mrs Usha Narayanan, Mrs Patwardhan, Mrs Arceivala and Mrs Bawa.

IWAKUNI / JAPAN

The Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 300th anniversary at the Kintai area and all communities were invited to take part.

Mr Raju Chugani of Modesto Clothing was united to Mrs Duru Mohinani in holy matrimony. They were married at Lucknow.

Air India held a cocktail party on the 29th November at the Grand Hiroshima Hotel to celebrate the opening of their new branch office in Hiroshima. The party was attended by Mr Gidwaney and Mr C. Pinto.

Foursome

Indian ladies at the 300th year celebrations of the Iwakuni Chamber.

Vishnu, son of Mr & Mrs Gopwani of M/s Righton, Okinawa was maried to Maya, daughter of Mr & Mrs Wani of M/s Tagore, Gibraltar in Bangalore.

TANZANIA

Diwali celebrated in Tanzania

After nine days of Navratri and the playing of 'Raas Garbas' all over Tanzania, Diwali was celebrated by Hindus all over the country, with a lot of pomp and show. Though this year the number of Hindus in Tanzania is comparatively lower than last year; Diwali has been a special affair in this country.

More glow was added to this year's Diwali because the Tanzania Government has been gracious enough to permit the bursting of crackers, which, for the last half a decade had been banned for safety reasons.

Tanzania's Hindu comm has every reason to thank able Government led by sident Nyerere for removing ban on crackers.

Hundreds of Hindus we Mandirs to offer their prayer the Goddess Laxmi and new count books were started, on eve of the Hindu New Year.

There was gaiety and s invaded everyone's lips, old young alike. This was a when all business pressures routines were given a brief day.

All in all, Diwali was a sp affair for Tanzania's Hindus year.

—Shamlal

YEMEN

Photographic Exhibition at Sanaa

(Photo right): Indian Ambassador, Mr S. Nazir Hussain welcoming dignitaries to the Indian Photographic Exhibition organised in Sanaa, Ye Arab Republic. Photo from left to right are: Indian Ambassador; H Sheikh Abdul Sallam Sabra, Adviser to the Yar Republic Council; H.E. Sh Sinan Abu Lahoom, Governor of Hodeidah; and H.E. Mr Abdulla A Majeed Al-Asnag, Yar's Acting Foreign Minister.

(Photo left): Watching the Exhibition from left to right are: H.E. Sh Abdul Sallam Sabra, Adviser to the Yar Republican Council; H.E. Sh Sinan Abu Lahoom, Governor of Hodeidah; H.E. Mr Mohammed Al-G Minister of Treasury; H.E. Mr Abdulla Abdul Majeed Al-Asnag, Ac Foreign Minister and H.E. Mr Ahmed Jabar Afeef, Minister of Education

HONG KONG

Off to Bombay

Off to Bombay recently by Air India to get married was Miss Rekha MOTWANI, daughter of Mr & Mrs Dialdas Motwani, proprietors of a leading Indian firm in Hong Kong, B. Dialdas & Co.

Twenty year old Rekha, (second from left) born and brought up in the Colony, was looking every inch a modern miss in a gay and attractive pantsuit when photographed at Kai Tak with relatives and friends. However on the 14th of this month, Rekha will be dressed in a heavily embroidered saree, bejewelled and garlanded and ready to undergo the rituals of a traditional Hindu marriage ceremony.

Rekha's fiance is Deepak Melwani of M/S Commonwealth Traders Ltd of Hong Kong.

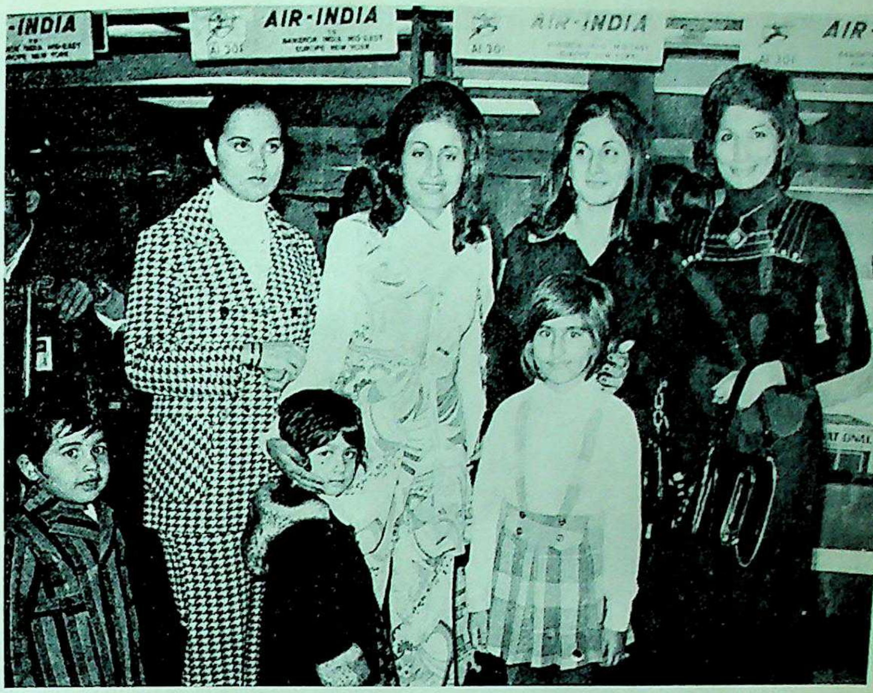


Photo: (l-r) Mrs Jyoti Dialdas, Miss Rekha Motwani, Mrs Maya Aswani and Mrs Minoo Melwani.

* * *

The first grandchild has been born to Kamala and Hongkong Indian Chamber of Commerce Secretary S.A. Ram. Their daughter Rajalakshmi, married to Production Engineer of Radio Corporation of America, V. R. Krishnamurthy gave birth to a baby girl in Penetang, Ontario Canada on January 15, 1974.

Mr and Mrs L. Dayaram held a Christening Reception for their son at the Excelsior recently.

Picture shows Mr and Mrs L. Dayaram with their son Master Mark Dayaram.

AIR-INDIA
N AIR LINES

Off to London on Air India's flight from Hong Kong on 17th January 1974 was talented young Argentine-born pianist Sylvia KERSENBAUM (second from left), pictured at Kai Tak with Frank Fung (extreme left), Air India's District Sales Superintendent, Mrs Winnie Lau Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Philharmonic and Gilbert Wong the airline's Assistant to the Airport Manager.

Miss Kersenbaum was the soloist with the Hong Kong Philharmonic at the inaugural concerts and started off this first professional season of the orchestra in royal style with Beethoven's Emperor Concerto.

Air India, as one of the sponsors for the Hong Kong Philharmonic's professional debut, has played a part in the making of cultural history in the Colony.

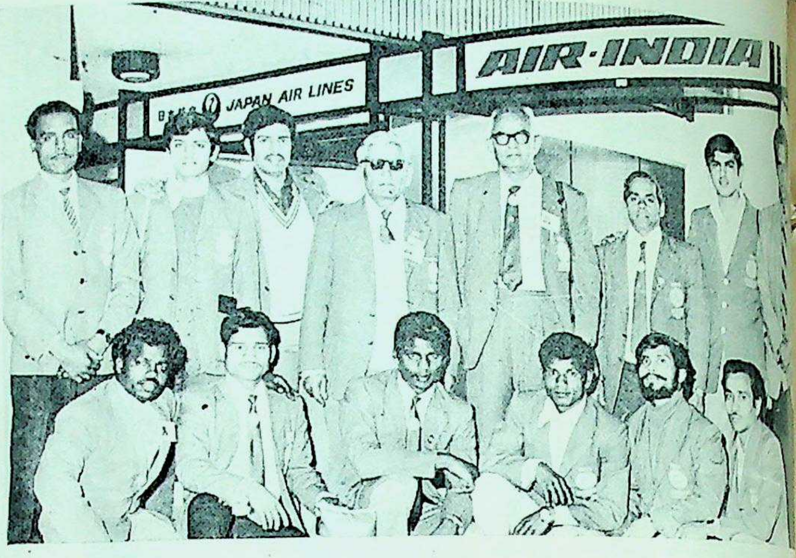
Successful Indian Competitors Return Home

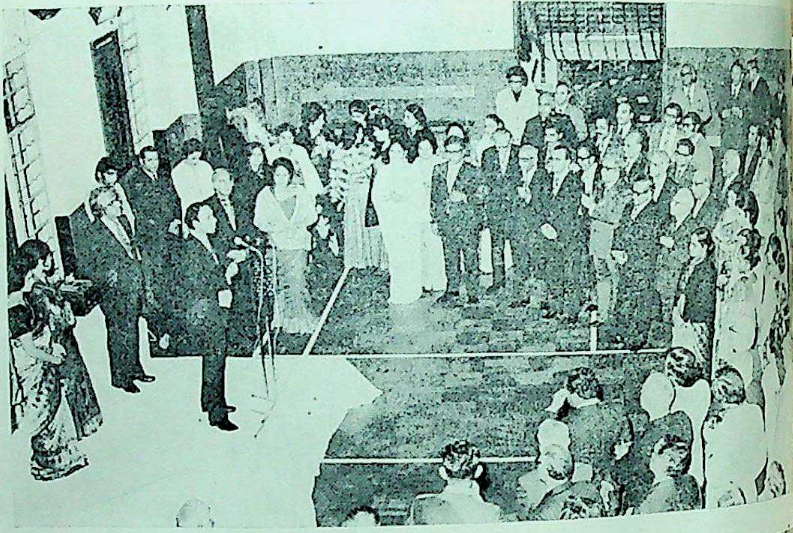
Photographed at Kai Tak, prior to their departure by Air India for Delhi, are members of the Indian team that participated in the recent tenth Commonwealth Games in Christchurch. The team, comprising a total of twenty members, "set up something of a record, for 75% walked off with a medal", was the delighted comment of their Chief de Mission, Mr K. GANGULI, who is also the President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation. Mr Ganguli (front row, 4th from right) felt his team had done well to finish in fifth place.

The wrestlers were the heroes —ten competitors in this section and ten medals won—four gold, five silver and one bronze is the booty, the wrestlers are proudly taking back to India.

In addition to these, India obtained one silver and one bronze in weightlifting, one silver and one bronze in boxing and a silver in athletics.

The Indian team stopped off in Hong Kong for a couple of days on its way home to do a spot of sightseeing and shopping.

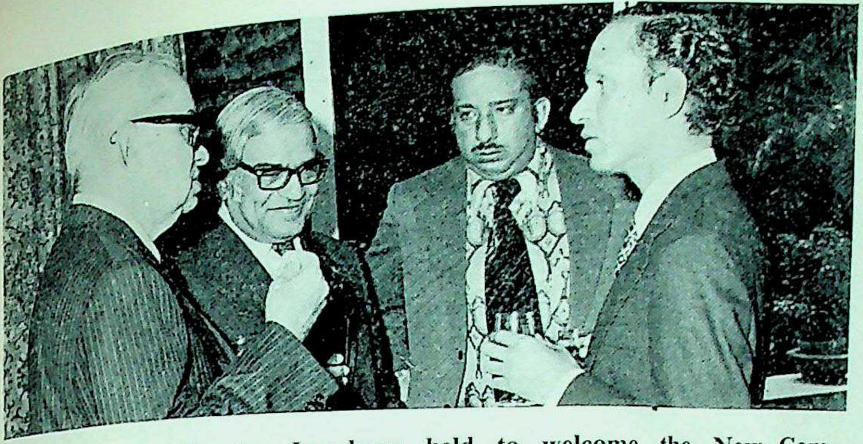




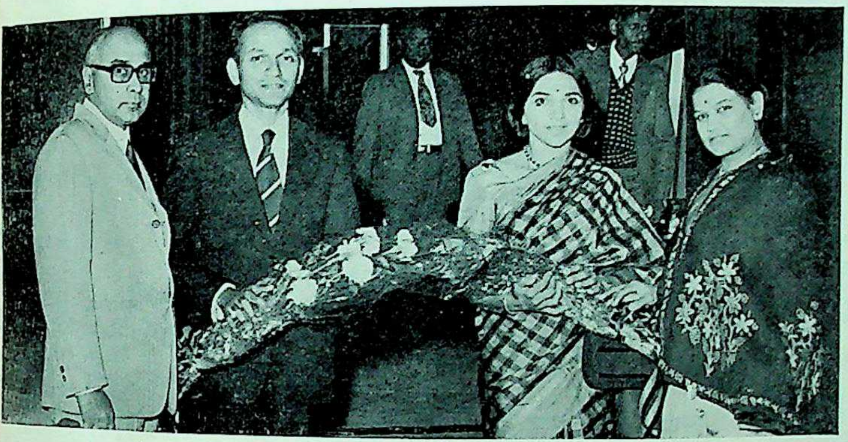
Mr Madhavan addressing the gathering at Indian Club reception, organi by Indian Community in Hongkong to welcome him and his wife Mrs Gi Madhavan.

The wedding of Chander son of Mr Kishinchand Buxani with Shobha daughter of late Mr Shewaram Mahbubani took place at hotel Ashoka, Madras

At recent Indian Community Cocktail held to welcome Mr and Mr Madhavan at India Club are seen from L to R. Mrs Lita Sital, Mrs G Madhavan and Mrs Sushi Bob Harilela.



Seen at Indian Chamber Luncheon held to welcome the New Commissioner for India, Mr A. Madhavan are from L to R. Mr J. Mulchand, Mr M. P. Ladharam, Mr T. U. Arjan, and the commissioner Mr A. Madhavan.



Tamil Cultural Association, Hongkong organised a reception in honour of new Commissioner Shri A. Madhavan and Mrs Madhavan.

Seen above L to R are: Mr K. R. Vishwanathan—President of Tamil Cultural Association, Mr & Mrs Madhavan and Mrs Vishwanathan.

Mr and Mrs J. Mulchand and Mr and Mrs N. J. Ramnani held a wedding reception for over 600 people in the Excelsior recently for the newly-weds Deepak and Kamla.

Picture shows Deepak Mulchand and Kamla Ramnani at the wedding ceremony held at Hindu Temple.

BURMA

Indian ladies winners in Diplomatic Tournament

A very large crowd turned up to witness the Diplomatic Friendship Table Tennis Tournament held at the prestigeous Aung San Stadium at Rangoon on Sunday, the 4th November, 1973. In the Womens' Doubles event, the Indian team of Mrs Uma Badhwar, wife of the Indian Military Attache, and Mrs S. Sivaswami, wife of the Second Secretary in the Indian Embassy, reached the Women's Doubles final and played against the Russian combination of Mrs Kuznitsova and Mrs Paulova in a match which turned out to be the best of the day. After exciting fluctuations of fortunes and a protracted tussle by each side to get the upper hand, the Indian ladies' team prevailed over their opponents at 21-14, 14-21, 21-11, 10-21 and 21-17. In the last game, the Russians were leading 15-7, when the Indian ladies, displaying remarkable match temper, put in a sterling performance to draw level and clinch the game in their favour. Mrs Uma Badhwar's consistent and aggressive game of "spins and chops" was a delight to watch, while Mrs S. Sivaswami gave her partner commendable support with her steady performance at the crucial time.

Over a dozen Diplomatic Missions in Rangoon as well as representatives from the Burmese Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the tournament which also had Men's Doubles event. The prizes were distributed by the Malaysian Ambassador to Burma, H.E. Mr Abdul Hamid bin Pawanchee, who is President of the Diplomatic Sports Committee.

The accompanying photograph shows the victorious members of the Indian laides team, which emerged as the winners of the Ladies Doubles event, receiving their prize.

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Bombay Beat

Priyalata Pal

Greek Folk Dances

A 65 member team of Greek dancers headed by Madame Dora Straton gave a scintillating programme of Greek folk music and dance at the Ravindra Natya Mandir, Bombay, under the auspices of the Indo-Greek Cultural Exchange Programme and sponsored by the Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Govt. of Maharashtra.

The folk art preserves history and myth in its traditional forms and the Greek have enough of both to provide the basis of a great variety of folk dances. These have been carefully collected by Madam Straton and form the basis of the company she has formed.

Madam Straton Chief of the Greek Dance & Drama Troupe visiting India.

Greek Folk Dancers

They charmed audiences in Delhi and Bombay.

The dancers danced with such grace and an air of informality, that they made the audience feel as if they were actually witnessing dancing at festivals and ceremonies in Greek villages. Among the notable feature of many of the dances was that the dancers often formed chains with hands linked or on shoulders, while their leader did some acrobatics. A notable dance was the one from Laymnes, depicting in mime the courage of a paralysed dive. Among the other rare dances was the 'Labyrinth' dance (Thrace) which was colourful and the fur-trimmed satin gown impressive.

Twelvth State Music and Dance Festival

The Twelvth Maharashtra State Music and Dance Festival, was held at the Rang Bhavan, Bombay, in celebration of the birth centenery of the late Khansaheb Abdul Karim Khan and Pandit Ramkrishnabuwa Vaze.

The programme which lasted for nearly seven days included some of the finest scientillating dances and vocal music performed by renowned artists from the world of dance and music.

The Bharatnatyam dance was performed by the film artist Vyjayantimala Bali, the manipuri dances by the well known Javeri Sisters, Kathakali by Guru Krishnan Kutty, Mohini Attam by Kanak Rele, Kathak dance by Damayanthi Johshi and Sitara Devi and some Rajasthani folk dances.

The vocal songs were sung by Kishori Parikh, Ram Marathe and Khadia Hussein Khan.

V.I.P.'s Visit

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Dr Gustav Husak and Madame Viera Husakova were in Bombay recently during their official visit to India.

International Productivity Congress

Some of the top world experts including those from India participated in a five day meeting of World Congress on Productivity Science at Oberoi Sheraton Hotel, Bombay to discuss techniques to increase productivity.

The Union Finance Minister, Mr Y. B. Chavan, in a message to the Congress described productivity as the "best possible use of economic resources." Mr Naval H. Tata, well known industrialist appealed to all those associated with productivity to understand its full significance to national survival and welfare, and urged the people to put on a little effort, so that more could be produced and the country could be brought to prosperity.

Air Chief Marshal P. C. Lal, Chairman of the Indian Airlines explained how ten per cent more work could bring in Rs 8 crores straightway to his company.

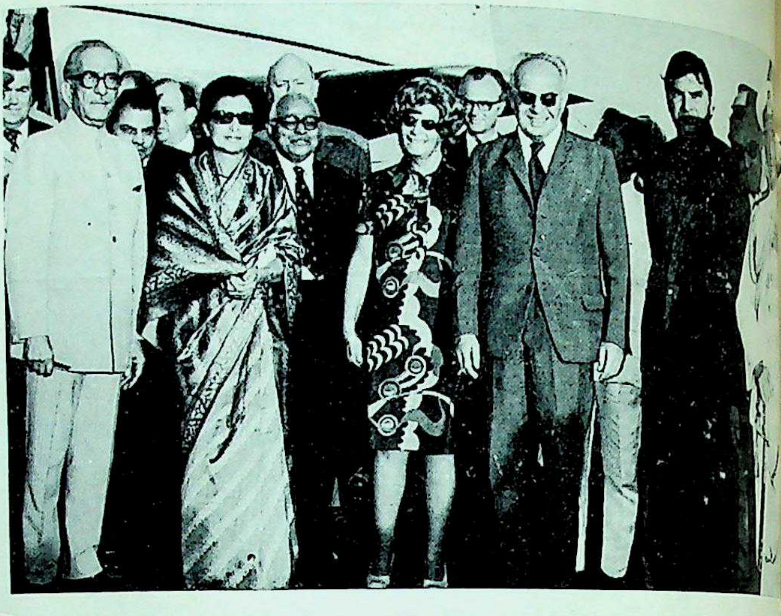
The World Congress had been organised by the Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering and National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering.

Boxing Team

Under the auspices of the Indo-German Cultural Society, a reception was held at Hotel President in honour of the visiting boxing team from West Germany.

Both the boxing teams from West Germany and India were introduced to the large gathering present on the occasion and some of them were well known championship award winners.

A V.I.P. in Bombay



Seen in the picture (from L to R) Nawab Ali Yawar Jung, Mrs Jung J. G. Bhole, Sheriff of Bombay, Mrs Husak, Dr Gustav Husak, Sec. G Central Committee and Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

World Productivity Congress

Seen from L to R: Mr Naval Tata, and Mr P. C. Lal of the Indian Air

Conference on the Blind

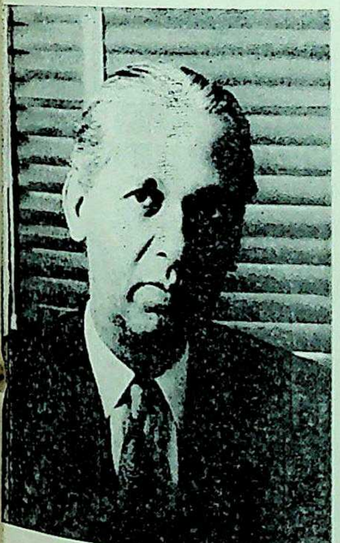
The Fourth Asian Regional Conference on work for the Blind was held in Bombay recently, which was organized by the Asian Committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind. The first Asian Conference was held in Tokyo in 1955, the second in Kuala Lumpur in 1963 and the third in Manila in 1968.

The theme of the con was 'Education and Empl of the Blind in Asia—Pr and Targets for the Se The conference was fina the world council for the of the Blind, the Royal monwealth Society for the The Nippon Lighthouse Blind and the National A tion for the Blind, Bomb the Indian Government.

Srivastava—New IMCO Chief

It is indeed an honour as much to his person as to his country, India, that Mr C. P. Srivastava, Chairman and Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India has been appointed the Secretary General of IMCO—the Inter - governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation, which is the United Nation's specialized agency for shipping.

A widely travelled man, Mr Srivastava has the distinction of having a most brilliant academic career. For his meriotrious services to Indian Shipping, Mr Srivastava was awarded "Padma Bhushan" by the President of India in 1972. On his shifting to his UN job in London, he will be very much missed among the shipping circles in India.



Mr C. P. Srivastava. The INDIAN wishes him well.

From Uganda with fond memories

"I live with the hope that President Idi Amin will recognise the vital role played by my late husband in the industrialisation of Uganda,' says Mrs Meena Madhwani, whose family has been the biggest loser in President Amin's ouster of Asians from that East African country.

The resources taken over by the Government of Uganda in the shape of industries and plantations belonging to the Madhwani group have been estimated at several crores of rupees and, though the President has promised compensation for all Asians whose properties have ben taken over, it is not in sight yet.

Graceful and gentle-voiced, Mrs Madhwani was in Bombay last week on her way to Philadelphia in the United States, where her 13-year-old second son is recovering from a severe reaction to triple vaccination.

Sadness is writ large on the face of Mrs Madhwani, who in 1972 figured as the victim in one of the most grossly false stories in international journalism in recent years.

In a story first published by a London daily and reproduced all over the world, she was deplicted as a modern-day Padmini who, after her husband's death in July, 1971, was courted by President Amin, a Muslim with four wives, only to meet with a stubborn rebuff from her for his marriage proposal.

It was made to appear that all the tribulations suffered by Asians in Uganda followed that incident.

Later, another story, equally baseless, was published wherein she was shown in a heroic light because, it was said, she alone had refused to leave her residence when Asians had been asked to gather at specified centres prior to repatriation or transport to Britain, whose passports most of them held.

This story graphically described how she had barricaded herself and dared Ugandan soldiers to enter her house.

Mrs Madhwani, who has been away from Uganda for ten months, said in an interview she read the stoires with "surprise and shock" for nothing remotely resembling them had happened in reality.

But the family knew the mercurial Ugandan leader when he was in the Army and he had been a guest at one Madhwani family wedding reception and lunched with them when the Madhwanis some years ago entertained General J. N. Chaudhuri, former Chief of Staff of the Indian Army.

It was at Kakira near which Amin, then an army officer, was stationed. At the army camp there was often water trouble and the Madhwanis used to help them in setting it right.

There was no question at all of her being apprehensive during the 1972 disturbances for their plantation was being specially guarded by the police as a precautionary measure, she revealed.

Mrs Madhwani, narrating the history of the Madhwanis in Uganda, mentioned that it was in 1890 that some grand uncles of her husband had opened small shops in remote towns where the British encouraged Asians to settle since the area was too inhospitable for Europeans as they swamped with tse-tse flies.

During the life of her father-in-law, the firm of V. H. & Company, started by the family, began to prosper and reached their zenith when her husband took over the helm.

"He started 73 industries and other enterprises in Uganda and elsewhere in just 12 years," she pointed out. He led such a hectic life because of this and succumbed to a heart attack in New Delhi while on the way to Amarnath on pilgrimage when aged only 49.

He used to be described as a "bridge between Asians and Africans" for he believed in Africanisation of his concerns, many of which had Ugandan managers.

At least his family has not been accused of referring to ordinary Ugandans as "Bhois" (boys), which they dislike. "We always called by their first names all Ugandans working with the family," she added.

The Madhwani empire was diversified because included in them were units in the sugar, steel, glass, matches, textiles and beer besides plantations. Mr Madhwani was personally responsible for getting a quota for Uganda in the sugar export market.

She recalls how the Ugandan Government, on her husband's death, permitted an East African Airways plane to be diverted to Delhi so that his wish to be cremated in the family's own cemetery overlooking Lake Victoria could be fulfilled. His father had been cremated there and the monument raised in his memory is meant to be a place of meditation.

Mrs Meena Madhwani

"Our residence has no was never locked and ev was free to come in," she tioned.

Born in Tanganyika, of Tanzania, Mrs M studied in the Gurukul at and was married in 1950. eldest son, Nitin, has graduated from Oxford hopes to go back to U where he was born, to fol ideals for which his father lived.

According to Mrs Mad only about 600 Indians a now in Uganda. President popularity with the masses is deep, she asser cause he is a practical- man who never keeps aloof them.

Tears welled in her eyes wistfully expressed the hope President Amin would op gate for Asian-African standing.

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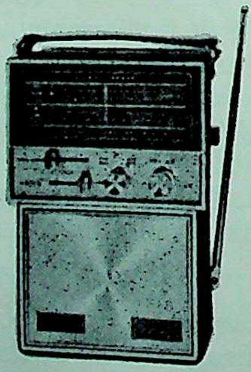

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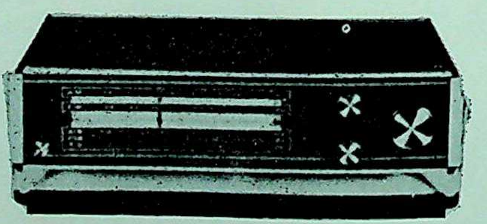

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New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhandari

The fifth 5 yr. plan

Everybody in the national capital is these days sneering and snipping at the Indian economic planner. Be it the cacophony of bus-stop chatter or the more sophisticated drawing-room argument, the poor blighter is the object of mercilese ridicule.

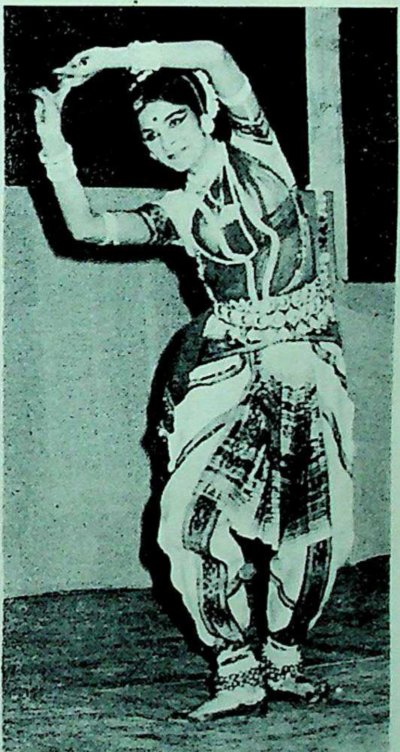
To be honest, you cannot blame the furious population whose meagre breakfast and still more measly lunch is being eaten into like mad by the crazy price spiral. The planner has the temerity to tell us that after the Fifth Plan, which is a gargantuan Rs 53,000 crore package, the income of 170 million Indians living on the brink of subsistence will increase from Rs 25 a month to Rs 29. What a deal!

What is worse, the Rs 53,000 crore plan is considered a master hoax as it has been calked out on the basis of 1972-73 prices, which have already been left far behind. Many among those who know are already saying that the Planning Commission has perpetratied a massive political bluff as there are not sufficient resources for a plan of this size. At least one planner, Dr Minhas, has already resigned in disgust.

The draft Plan is full of little bits of wisdom. For those who like to spice their economics with a pinch of philosophy, there is the injunction against false humility. "Our ingrained humility has often led us to underestimate ourselves" it declares. "WE must discover ourselves fully." No Upanishad has ever put it more pithily.

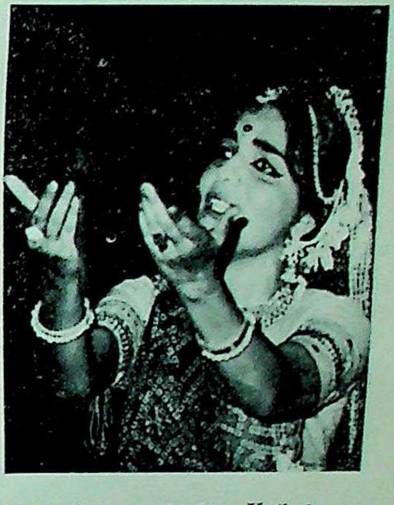
Sri Ramcharit Manas

In connection with the 400th anniversary of the great Hindi epic, Ramcharit Manas, a two-day festival of classical music and dance was organised by the Ramcharitmanas Chatush-shatabadi Samaroh Samiti.



Samyukta Panigrahi, brilliant Odissi dancer.

The festival was a novel experiment in highlighting the interdependence and cross-fertilization of poetry, music and dance. It presented four top-ranking artistes, Kumar Gandharva, Pt. Jasraj, Ku. Uma Sharma and Mrs Samyukta Panigrahi, in music and dance recitals based on the verses of Ramcharitmnas and other works of Tulsidas.



Uma Sharma, Indian Kathak exponent.

Samyukta Panigrahi is a young and brilliant exponent of the Odissi form of dance. With her lively expression, grace and vitality, Samyukta seems to breathe life into the dance poses of Konarak and other Oriya temples. She is very expressive and dramatic in her 'Abhinaya' and displays great histrionic talent. Samyukta has widely toured as a dancer in USSR, Hungary and Japan.

Youthful and vivacious, Uma Sharma is one of the few versatile and highly talented exponents of the Kathak dance today. She has toured around the world giving several dance performances and was decorated by the award Padmashri. Besides being a very well-trained and seasoned dancer, Uma is an energetic innovator and has done the most to renovate and modernise the aesthetics of Kathak. She has been ably demonstrating the flexibility of Kathak by adopting to the style and works of Tulsidas, Surdas, Ghalib and Tagore.

Rotary Air India Eve

Air India and Rotary Club jointly organised a "Rotary-Air India Evening" to select the best couple for a free trip to Bangkok. The free ticket was provided by Air India.

The competition, based on personality, dancing and a quiz test, was won by Mr & Mrs Mclwainne, a British couple. Mr Mclwainne is a technical consultant with Heavy Electricals (India) Limited. The runners-up, Mr Mirza and partner, received a set of silver glasses given by Union Carbide.

The proceeds of the gala evening, which was well-attended, will go towards the construction of a Rotary Bhawan. The function was organised by Mr M. C. Grover of Air India and Mr I. J. Sethi of Rotary Club.

Couples swaying to the sound of music in the Rotary-Air Indian Eve

Winners of Rotary-Air India competitions seen with the organisers. L Mr & Mrs Grover (Air India), Mr Mirza and partner (runners-up) Mr & Mclwainne (winners) and Mr & Mrs Sethi (Rotary Club).

International Youth Festival in Delhi

To give an opportunity to the youth of the world to visit India, to discuss and exchange views on the issues that confront the world youth today and to witness the diverse social, cultural and spiritual aspects of Indian youth and India, an International Youth Festival is scheduled to be held in New Delhi from July 23rd to August 6th, 1974. This project is sponsored by the Indian Camping Association in collaboration with the Youth Hostels Association of India and the Delhi Mountaineering Association.

The Festival will be followed by a 15 days camp at Pahalgam in Kashmir or Manali (Himachal Pradesh). The participants will have the choice to join any of the two camps. Besides these two camps they will have the option to join any of pre and post festival tours which are under plan.

The youth, students and others who wish to visit India this summer will have special prices on travel and hotels etc. For details contact the India Tourist Office in your country.

Radio & Television Industry

The manpower, supply and demand situation in so far as radio and television industry is concerned has a perfect balance. Sufficient institutional training potential exists in respect of these occupations.

This has been revealed industry survey conducted Directorate General of E ment and Training in res radio and television indus survey reveals that prod in c radio receivers in sector increased from quarter million in 1960 2 million by 1971. anticipated that by 1 level of production will figure of 3.25 million se

In addition, the small scale sector has also registered considerable progress. The production of radio sets in 1969 was 0.90 million. It is expected that annual production in the small scale sector will grow to 3 million sets by 1974.

Production of television sets began in 1969 with one unit in the organised sector with an installed capacity of 5000 sets per year. The actual production in 1969 was 1250 sets. In 1970, another unit was installed. Total production in that year was about 5000 sets. In 1971, the production of two units was about 8000 as against installed capacity by 20,000 sets.

In the small scale sector, two television manufacturing units had been approved with a capacity of 5000 sets each in 1969. The capacity in 1971 was enhanced to 10,000 sets. Simultaneously, 43 new small scale establishments were approved creating an additional capacity of 1000 sets per year. In 1972, an additional capacity of 50,000 television receivers per annum was created.

There are 64 small scale licensed units for the television sets, out of these 10 have so far gone into production. The further growth of industry is likely to be in the small scale sector. In so far as radio manufacturing is concerned, it is expected that the production will be of the order of 4 million sets. This is likely to generate additional job opportunities for 350 radio engineers, 1500 assembly workers, 500 radio mechanics and 400 radar technicians.

Assuming that all the 64 units in the small scale sector for the manufacture of TV sets will go into production by 1975, this is likely to generate additional job opportunities for 600 television mechanics and assembly workers.

Asia Electronics Conference

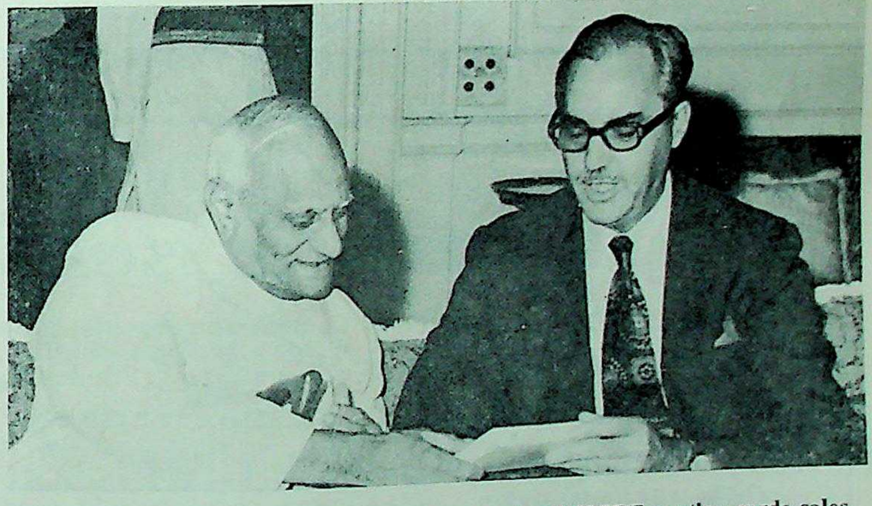
Devising appropriate policy instruments for ensuring that science and technology are turned to the best national advantage is perhaps the greatest challenge facing policy planners in the developing world. This was stated by Shri C. Subramaniam, Minister of Industrial Development and Science and Technology, in New Delhi while inaugurating the Seventh Asia Electronics Conference.

Shri Subramaniam said that in India a comprehensive science and technology plan for the country's next five years had been attempted and the document was in the final stage of approval.

Talking about the need to minimise unemployment, the Minister said that we were extremely interested in multiplying employment opportunities to our unemployed men and women. Production techniques that maximised employment per unit of investment and per unit of output accordingly qualified for higher preference than techniques involved in western countries in a situation of labour shortage.

Speaking about the importance of electronics industry, Shri Subramaniam said that there was no short-cut to the building up of a broadbased and full-fledged competence in the electronic skill. There was no alternative to upgrading professional skills and performance in a host of connected fields particularly in education and training. The Minister said that we should not also forget that the countries of Asia were in a hurry to move forward to meet their social-economic goals that could not be postponed. Hence the importance of planned efforts to ensure that the goals were set rigorously and realistically.

Fund Raising For Children



The President, Shri V. V. Giri, inaugurated the UNICEF greeting cards sales campaign at Rastrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. This is a major campaign in India for funds for children.

Population Explosion

The International Conference on Population Growth was recently held at New Delhi. Picture shows the Indian Vice President speaking on the ocassion.

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Gleanings from Indian press

Special Facilities For Indians Returning From / Residing Abroad

Foreign currency accounts in India

Indians resident abroad, desiring return to India for securing suitable employment or for exploring the possibilities of setting up a small-scale industrial unit, will hereafter be granted exemption, for a period of three years from the date of their return to India, from the usual exchange control requirement that they should surrender their foreign currency balances within 30 days of the date of their arrival in ndia. Persons wishing to avail f this exemption will have to ubmit a formal application to Central Office of the Exchange Control Department of Reserve Bank of India at Bombay in the questionaire form prescribed for purpose. The Reserve Bank l grant exemption on the erits of each case. Wherever e exemption in granted, the ersons concerned will be permitted to make use of the foreign urrency balances held by them pay for imports of equipment nd other capital goods for which port licences may be issued to em by the Chief Controller of mports and Exports, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi; they will lso be able to utilise small mounts from the balances for ersonal requirements. Persons ishing to avail of the above cilities would also be given the ernative of surrendering their reign currency balances immediately but with a right being available to them in the event of their deciding to go back to a foreign country, of re-transferring the amount of foreign currency so surrendered, within a period of three years (or within such further extended period as may be allowed by the Reserve Bank) from the date of their arrival in India.

Persons holding foreign currency balances which represent their earnings out of employment with any Indian-owned organisatoin will not, however, be eligible to avail of the benefit of the exemption and other facilities referred to above.

Setting up Industries in India

Applications for import of machinery and raw materials will be considered on a liberal basis from industrial units in the small scale sector to be set up by Indian nationals returning from/ residing abroad. In such cases:—

(a) Machinery upto a c.i.f. value of Rs 2.5 million (HK$1.91 million) may be alowed to be imported provided it is purchased within the applicant's foreign exchange earnings abroad and he furnishes a proper account of his holdings to the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) The machinery to be imported is required for setting up a small scale unit in which the applicant has a substantial financial interest of not less than 51 per cent.

(c) Requests for permission to sell the imported machinery will not be entertained for a period of five years.

(d) Permissible raw materials and components for meeting the requirements of one year subject to maximum of Rs 100,000 (HK$76,680) may also be allowed to be imported, purchased out of the applicant's foreign exchange earnings abroad.

The facilities mentioned above will also be subject to following:

(i) In the case of Indian nationals returning from abroad neither the foreign exchange earnings brought-in in the form of plant and machinery, raw materials/ components nor the profits thereon would be repatriated.

(ii) In the case of persons of Indian origin residing abroad:

  (a) Conditions applicable to investments in companies engaged in industrial activity would apply to these cases also, if he forms a limited company.

  (b) Neither the capital nor the profits would be repatriated abroad.

(c) So long as the investor does not take Indian citizenship, all amounts due to him with the application for import of machinery raw materials/components and the duplicate copy of the declaration may be forwarded to the Reserve Bank of India, Exchange Control Department, Central Office, Bombay.

(iii) A declaration that the small scale units proposed to be set up in India will be duly registered with the Director of Industries of the State in which the unit is set up and that the Registration Certificate will be produced to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi, at least within one year from the date of the import application. (Import application in Form 'E' need not be supported by recommendation of the sponsoring authority at this stage).

In the case of raw materials/components, the import will be allowed only in respect of items required by the unit and permissible to actual users in terms of the policy in force. Application for import of raw materials/components should be made in Form 'B' appearing in Appendix 3 to the I.T.C. Hand Book of Rules & Procedure 1973-74, supported by evidence of payment of Rs 50/– (HK$38.34) towards application fee. The application for raw materials/components should be made along with the application for import of machinery and should be supported by evidence referred to in sub-para 2(ii) and 2(iii) above.

In all cases where the funds retained abroad are required to be utilised for financing imports of machinery, raw materials and components into India, regular import licences with Exchange Control Copy will be granted with the following endorsement:

"Not available for remittance from India. Payment to be made out of the foreign currency account of the importer."

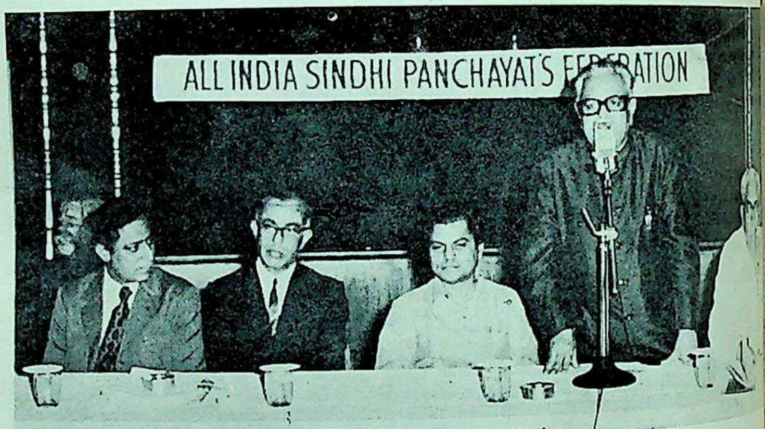
The licence shall also be subject to the following further conditions:

(i) The machinery imported shall be used by the applicant in the industrial unit proposed to be set up and for the purpose for which the import is allowed.

(ii) The sale of the machinery and by the unit to any other person shall be made only with the prior written permission of the Ch troller of Impo Exports, New D that requests fo permission shall five years from the entertained for a p import of the machi

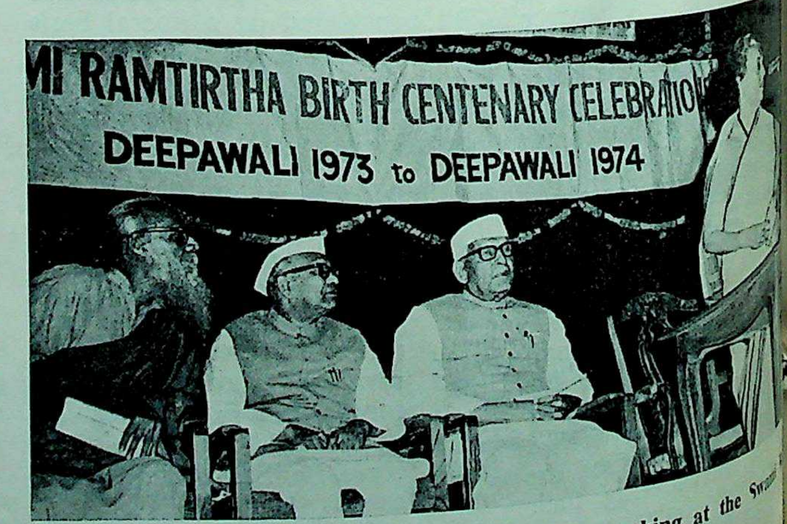
"The concession to import of machinery c.i.f. value of Rs 2.5 (HK$1.9 million) chased within the ap foreign exchange abroad shall not a such manufacturing tions as may be spe Government from time."

Mr Justice J. L. Nain


ALL INDIA SINDHI PANCHAYATS FE ATION

The All Indian Sindhi Panchayat Federation gave a reception for Mr Nain who has been appointed Chairman of the Indian Monopolies mission. Speaking on the occasion is President Nari Gurdasani.

The Saint is Honoured


MI RAMTIRTHA BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATIO
DEEPAWALI 1973 to DEEPAWALI 1974

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, speaking at the Sw Tirth Satabadi Samaroh at Mavlankar Hall in New Delhi.

Haldia port is being expanded to handle additional 1 m. tons of cargo in 1974.

●

The first India made Satellite is ready for launch shortly. It has been made at Bangalore by Indian engineers.

●

New Delhi—Moscow telephone link has 9 channels—5 via satellite and 4 via radio link.

●

India and Iran signed a 2 year agreement to cooperate in the fields of education, science, culture and arts.

●

India has estabilshed full diplomatic relations with both Koreas.

●

The 4th Asian Regional Conference on WORK FOR THE BLIND was held at Bombay recently.

●

In May-July 1973, India issued manufacturing licences to 60 enterprises and letters of intent to another 137 companies.

●

A World Consultation Conference on Wood—based industries will be held at New Delhi during 6-16 February, 1975.

●

Argentina University is publishing a set of books on Gnadhi's works.

●

A new Cyclone Warning Radar has been set up at Calcutta.

●

163 Indians who landed at Sharjah in West Asia as illegal immigrants (mostly from Kerala) and were deported were drowned when the small launch carrying them sank off Dubai.

●

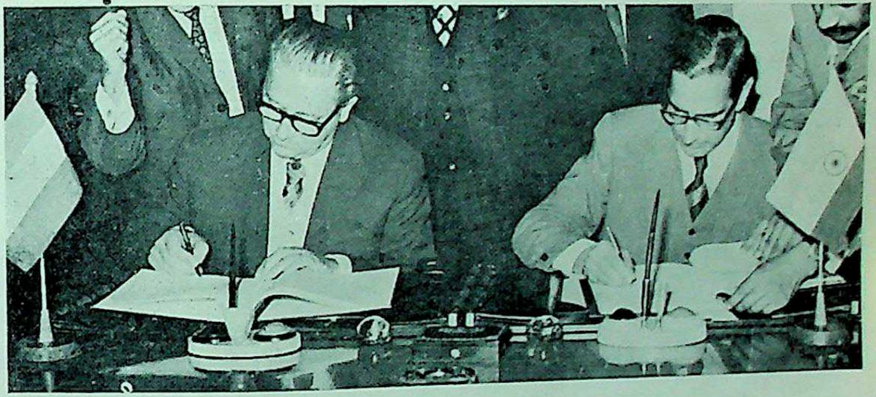
A factory to make Vodka is being set up at Simla.

●

Indian Government has taken over ESSO Company in India. An agreement to this effect has been signed.

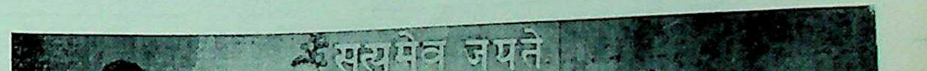
Dr (Mrs) Sarojini Mahishi, a Minister in the Indian cabinet, inaugurated an exhibition of silk sarees of Andhra Pradesh in New Delhi. Patola, Dharamavaram, Narayanpet, Gadwal, Kothakota, and Peddapuram Silk Sarees were on display in the exhibition. In some of the sarees the designs are generally reproductions of animal and floral motifs from the sculptures of 'Lepakshi'.

Indo — Hungarian Trade Protocol



Shri A. S. Gill, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Dr B. Szalai, Deputy Minister of Foriegn Trade of Hungary (left) signing in New Delhi a Indo-Hungarian Trade Protocol.

Indo — Iraqi cultural agreement



H. E. Mr Mohammad Moazzami Goodarzi, Ambassador of Iran in India (2nd from left) and Shri I.D.N. Sahi, Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Govt. of India (2nd from right) signing documents of a two year Cultural Exchange Programme. H. E. Mr. Abbas Ali Khalatbary, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iran, and Shri Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs are seen sitting extreme left and right respectively.

vive la différence!

During a spirited discussion in Paris over the equality of rights for women, a supporter of the women's rights was provoked to ask: What is the difference between a man and a woman? Promptly a Frenchman burst out: **"Vive la Différence"!**

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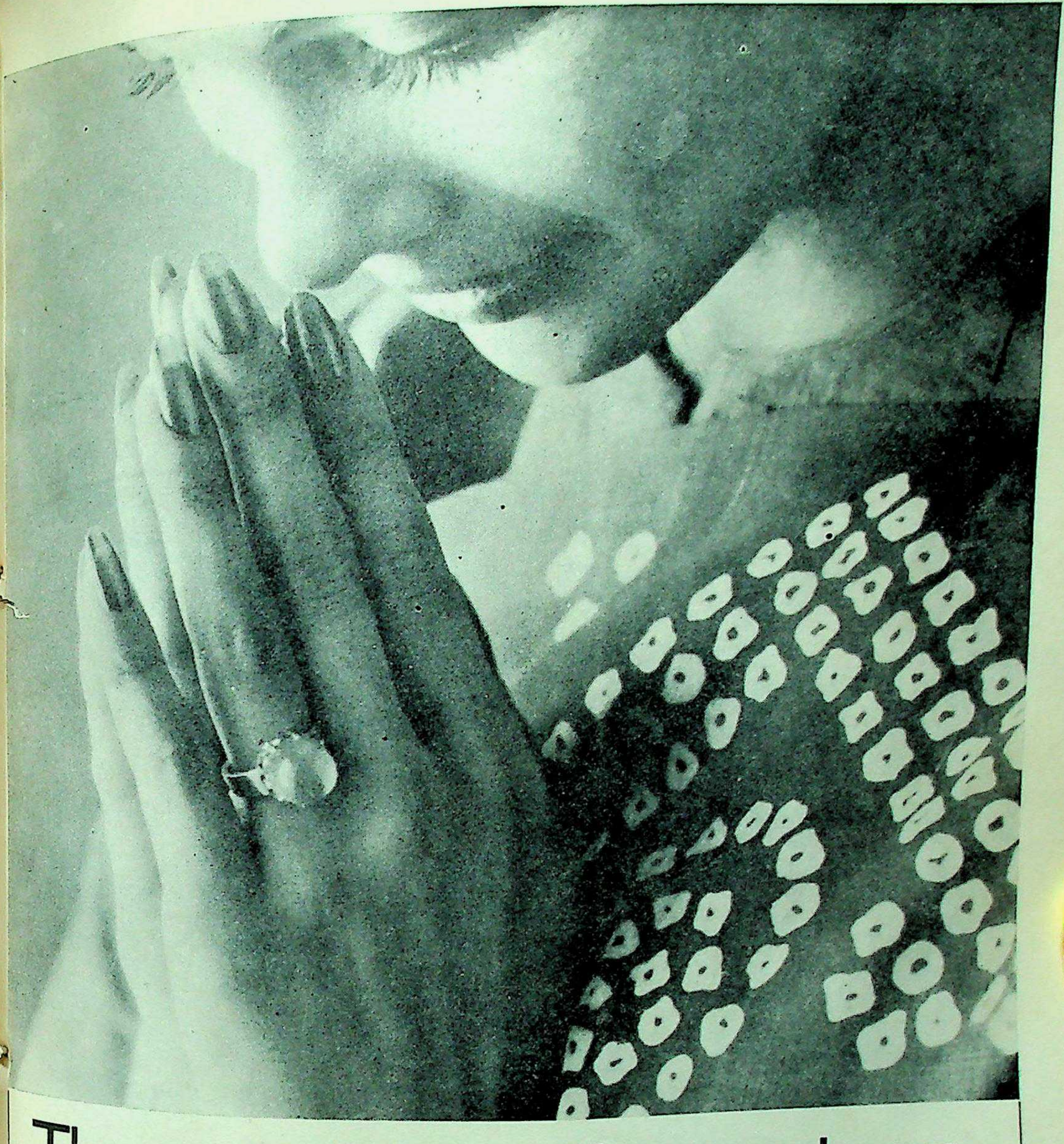

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Inter-community relations

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THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG
printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

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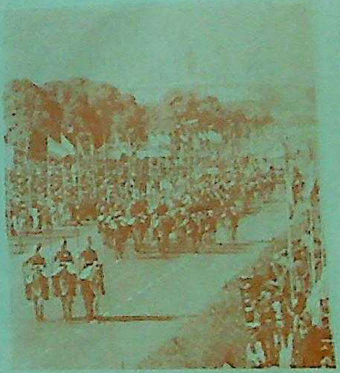

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Samaiki

G. Sital

A TIME TO ACT

Our beginnings are when we decide. And time to decide has come. For over a year now, I have been trying to convey to my readers that the Overseas Indians should form an organisation of their own to promote their social, cultural and Educational interests in the Southeast Asia and the Far East. I have gone to most of the countries in this region and met leaders of the local Indian communities who have shown warm support to the idea. I have just returned from a trip to India. Various influencial groups in New Delhi and Bombay have assured their support to the proposal.

In brief, my proposal is to form a Council of Overseas Indians in the East to promote their educational, social and cultural interests in the region. The council's headquarters may be at Hongkong with several regional offices and a liaison office at New Delhi. The Council may establish educational institutions, introduce exchange of students and scholars, organise lecture tours of religious and social leaders, invite dance and singing groups to perform at various places in the region, commission translation of literature in different languages of the region and similar activities. The liaison office at New Delhi may act on behalf of the Overseas Indians vis-a-vis the Indian authorities on matters refered to it by the Council or its members.

The Council will need volunteers in different countries who can give time and money to carry on its activities. For the purpose, a meeting of representatives from the region should be held so that the issue is finally clinched.

I request my readers and leaders of Indian communities from different cities of the region to give a serious thought to the proposal and send their views to me.

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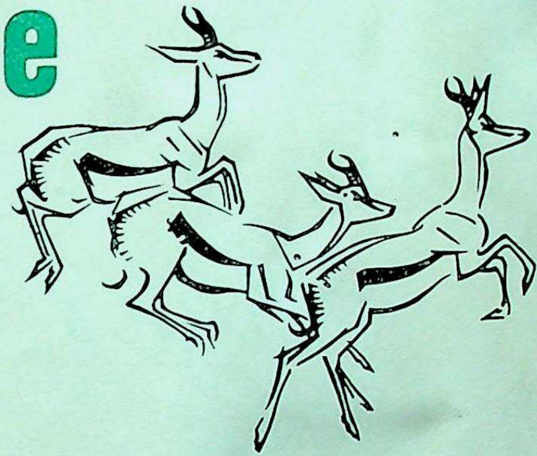

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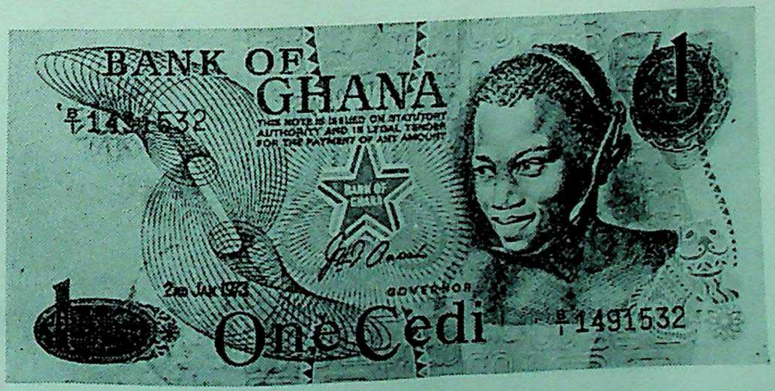
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Viewpoint

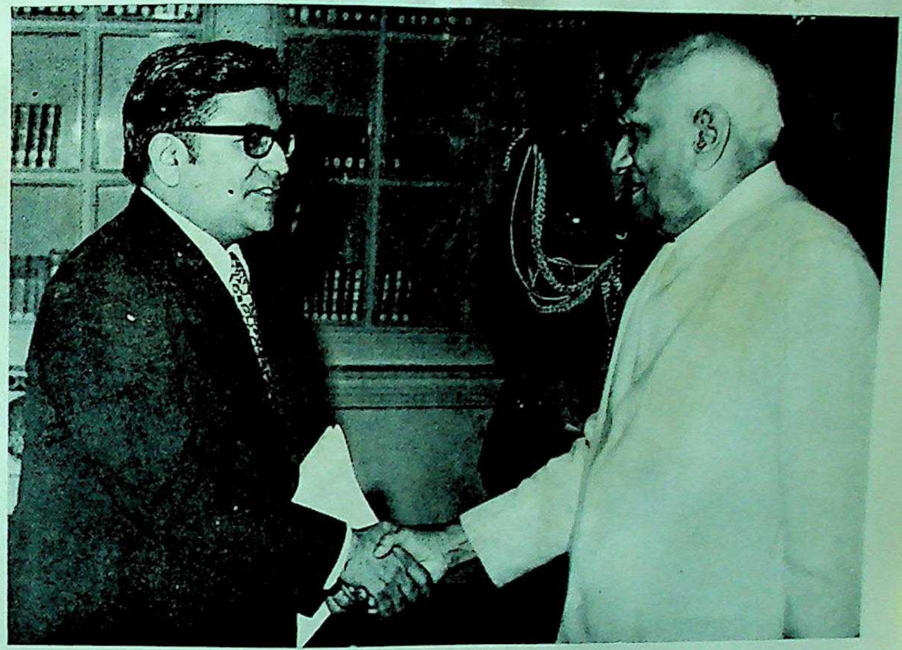
A VISIT TO DELHI

- breeze of fresh air -

A visit to Delhi in December is an experience to remember — at least it was so for me. The temperature touched down to 7°C resulting in heavy fog and poor visibility that delayed flights and railway trains. Cars crawled with headlights switched on even at 11 a.m. And I rushed from one appointment to other, making the most of my 36 hours' stay in Delhi.

I called upon the President of India, H.E. Shri V. V. Giri. He was cordial as ever and in good health though heavy burden of heading one of the largest democracies in the world has taken its toll. The President enquired about the INDIAN which he receives regularly and reads. He is concerned about the safety and well being of Indians residing in different parts of the world and asked me to convey his greetings to all our readers.

The Vice President of India, H.E. Shri G. S. Pathak was the next on my list. Shri Pathak is very well informed about the situation of Indians living abroad and showed a keen interest in involving them in promoting trade and culture of the Motherland. Our discussions ranged over wide issues including the wedding of Princess Anne whose photograph along with her consort was displayed on his shelf. It was a most stimulating time that I spent with him.



H.E. Shri V. V. Giri, President of India receiving Shri K. Sital, Publisher & Editor of the Indian & Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong.

The Vice President of India, H.E. Shri G. S. Pathak going through the latest issue of the Indian while Mr K. Sital looks on. Also seen in the picture is Mr A. G. Bhatnagar.

vive la différence!

During a spirited discussion in Paris over the equality of rights for women, a supporter of the women's rights was provoked to ask: What is the difference between a man and a woman? Promptly a Frenchman burst out: **"Vive la Différence"!**

We, in Bank of India, also join the Frenchman in saying, "Vive la Différence!" But what we refer to is the difference between a bank and a bank—difference in recruitment and training of staff; difference in attitude towards the customers; therefore, difference in efficiency and courtesy.

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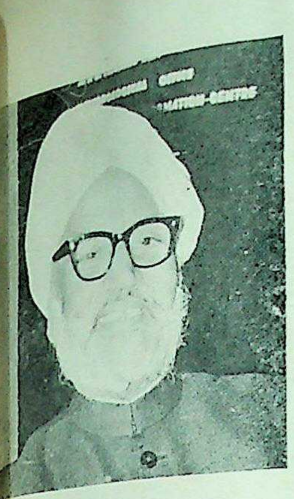

Sardar Swaran Singh

I also called on Sardar Swaran ingh, the Minister for External ffairs who is widely known oad, particularly to the Over- eas Indians in Hong Kong. He ad just returned after delivering speech to the Parliament in hich he made a request to akistan for friendlier relations nd our discussions centred on he same theme. It is remark- ble to find that such a busy per- on has time to know and remem- er small details and so many aces and names from different arts of the globe.

Y. B. Chavan

The Indian Commerce Minis- er Shri D. P. Chatopadhaya eceived me cordially even hough he had returned from an C meeting in Europe only a hours before. He was in ong Kong earlier during the ear and we had the privilege f meeting him there. He is totally devoted to promote India's trade and Commerce and wants Overseas Indians to lend a hand in it.

The Indian Finance Minister Shri Y.B. Chavan graciously invited me to meet him during lunch time. Unfortunately my plane landed late due to bad weather conditions and I could not keep the appointment. He asked me to come the following morning but I was leaving Delhi before the suggested time and it was too much to request him to see me before 7 a.m. I am deeply touched by his kindness. Where else can you find Finance Minister who is so willing and kind to accommodate a visiting brethren from abroad.

A visit to Delhi is like a breeze of fresh air — warm hospitality, easy manners, relaxed informality —it is a nostalgia.

The strength of India lies in the quality of its people and of its leaders for whom no problem is insurmountable and who keep their cool and their smile under all circumstances, and who welcome their brethren with open arms.

—K. Sital.

"Dear Friend" Letters

The Fourth Volume of the book "Transfer of Power" in India recently released by the British Government brings out the obsession of Churchill, Amery & Wavell with Gandhi. Gandhi was lying ill in the Aga Khan Palace. The British hoped that he would die and thus their troubles would be over. Churchill even told his cronies to keep their upper lips stiff on Gandhi's death. But Viceroy Wavell was a God fearing man. He did not like politicians—Churchill or Gandhi. He was not prepared to have Gandhi's death on his hands. So he wrote to Churchill seeking permission to release Gandhi on the grounds that the latter would either die or would be permanently disabled to take active part in politics. Churchill relented and Gandhi was released. But the old man survived, recovered fast and became active once again. He even saw his first ever two movies, Rama Rajyia that he liked and a Hollywood film that he did not like because "skirts of women were above their knees and too much of legs were exposed."

Churchill was wild [illegible] amed Waveil for Gandhi's [illegible] and wrote to the War Cabinet that "...after what Wavell said about Gandhi's state of health he has no right to enter upon correspondence with him .....". The British sat tense as to what Gandhi would do next.

And Gandhi made his move by doing what Churchill disliked most and could not even understand. Gandhi started writing his "Dear Friend" letters to the Viceroy, Jinnah and others. Gandhi could write the most curt English with a devastating effect in the most polite manner. His letters could not be ignored and his politeness generated only polite reply from Wavell and other gentlemen. Rascality of Churchill, and he was famous for it could not tolerate it and made him furious. And he was afraid of Americans who felt the British were not fair to India. Consequently, everytime a 'Dear Friend' letter came, it made Churchill feel both furious and helpless.

Soon the 'Dear Friend' letters isolated Churchill from his colleagues who felt that something should be done. These letters made Jinnah to agree to meet Gandhi and the British had worked hard to keep Jinnah stiff. So the game went on and the "Dear Friend" letters kept the British ruling circles in hysteria and in fear. The book has been heavily edited concerning persons and personalities involved in the game which is unfortunate. The imperial responsibility was, after all, carried out by men of flesh and blood and it would have been amusing to know they were that.

—K. N. Vaid.

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The Rich Protest

Protests and demonstrations in India generally recall to our minds big crowds of angry people. Recently there was another type of protest — by the rich in Bombay. They came to protest against the disposal of reclaimed land for building sky scrapers.

Soon after breakfast, a handsome man, dressed in blue silk T-shirt and white trousers, came in an imported car followed by a lorry. Coolies alighted from the lorry, took out chairs, sun umbrellas and mats to lay pitch for a cricket match. Soon the pitch was laid, chairs arranged, microphones set and taken over by pretty dames. Then came a 31 piece band and started playing the latest hit tunes. Others started arriving in their cars and by 10.30 a.m. there were about 200 cars and double the number of persons which included film stars, cricketeers, business tycoons, political leaders and socialites. They played cricket, T.V. & film cameras clicked. Cold drinks went around, and ladies with microphones kept on a lively commentary on why the reclaimed land should not be used for housing: to this, of course, no one listened. Every one had plenty to laugh and some game. By 12.30 p.m., the major domo declared the match closed and nnounced the land taken over by people for a Janata gymkhana. The band started its music, people packed into their cars and retired to their Sunday lunch.

In democracy, the rich and the haves also have to protest to have more — for nothing of course. Glaxy of the rich who assembled on Breach Candy could easily cough out money to buy the entire reclaimed land and give their children play grounds that they forget to build in sky-scrapers they live in. But to have some thing for nothing is fun, with diversion on a Sunday morning thrown in the bargain.

—K. N. Vaid.

Humour

The Young Mind

Mother showing her new born to older children said, "Whom does he resemble."

The 3 year old said, "No one, neither father nor you."

The 8 year old said, "Oh, he is a cross breed."

Who turns off the sun

Looking out the window, the three year old asked, "Mom, dark outside!"

"Yes it is, isn't it?" Mother answered.

After studying the darkness for a few seconds longer, he finally asked, "Mom, who turns off the sun every night?"

Hit Back First

Having done our best to explain that young ladies did not start a fight, but were allowed to hit back to defend themselves, young Susan was seen about to punch a neighbour boy, "I'm just hitting first, Daddy.," she said.

Secret of Speaking

Dr Tom Haggai, the popular speaker was asked how he's able to make some 750 speeches yearly around the world. "By just keeping my mouth open," he said.

Real Emergency

The Major was a real wolf. On seeing a lovely girl pass by, he shouted "Turn the car around." The driver promptly stalled the car. By the time he restarted it, the girl had vanished.

"Driver", said the Major, "You'd be a dead loss in an emergency."

"I thought I did pretty well, Sir," the driver replied, "that was my girl."

The Trouble Was

The man dashed into a bar and shouted, "Bartender, give me three whiskies before the trouble starts."

The bartender quickly served him and the man drowned the three drinks one after the other.

"What was the trouble and when does it start," the bartender asked.

"Right now", said the man, "I haven't got a cent in my pocket."

Hello Darling

The newly wed couple got into a hotel elevator. The good looking operator fluttered her eyes at the groom and said, "Hello, darling."

All the way up there was a deadly silence. The bride exploded soon after entering their room, "who was that hussy?"

"Don't you start anything", groaned the groom, "I will have enough trouble explaining you to her tomorrow morning."

A Fairy Tale

"Mama, do all fairy tales start with "Once upon a time."

"No dear", answered mother, "some times they begin with, Honey, I was delayed at the office ...."

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The Rama Legend in Asia

by

Dr Lokesh Chandra

Born as a primaeval poem in Valmiki's metrical measure, welling forth in all spontaneity at the grievous sight of the death of a love-lorn, avian couple shot by a hunter, the Ramayana has become the lyric of the men of Asia —from Siberia to Indonesia.

In the sixth century the Sinhalese poet-king, Kumaradasa, composed the *Janakiharana,* the earliest Sanskrit work of Ceylon. A word-to-word Sinhalese paraphrase was done in the 12th century by an anonymous writer, and ever since it has been eulogised. In our times, the Sinhalese translation of the Ramayana by C. Don Bastean has been a decisive influence on the Sinhalese novel. Modern dramatists, like John de Silva, an outstanding playwright, have adapted the Ramayana. The popular appeal in Ceylon has been of the ideals of the Ramayana in general, and the virtues of Sita, in particular, have ever been idealised.

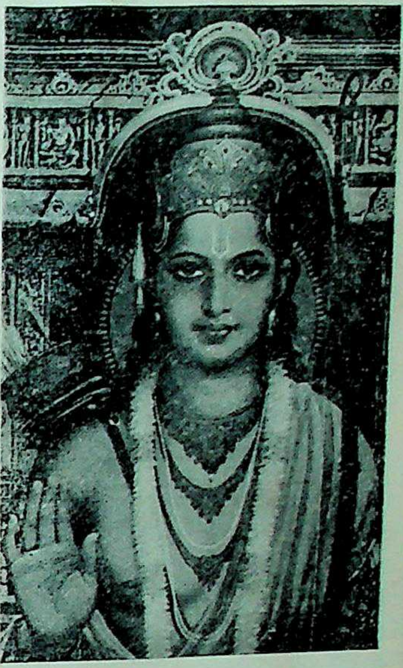
Ramayana in Cambodia

In seventh century Cambodia, ations attest that the Ramayana had become a major and favourite epic. Its episodes symbolised great historic events in sculptured monuments. That the Khmers had been impregnated with the Ramayana is evident from the fact that a name or a scene was sufficient to characterise a historic episode or to endow a social-ethical problem with moral authority and special motion. The depiction of the victorious exploits of Jayavarman VII, the Ramayana, became n integral part of Cambodian ife, played at feasts, figured on frescoes, and told by story-tellers. It is, in fact, the loveliest expression of the soul of the Cambodian people. Even today it holds Cambodian spectators spellbound. It is a memorable experience to witness the graduation ceremonies of the Royal Ramayana Ballet of Cambodia.

A Thursday is picked up for the ceremonies. Thursday is an auspicious day in Cambodia and its colour is deep saffron, joyous and divine. In the morning, a platform covered with a white cloth is put up in the hall. On the cloth are placed dancers' masks and headgear. The candles and the incense-sticks are lit. By the flickering amber light the coloured fruits and varied offerings all merge into the rich background, while wisps of blue incense-smoke curl in the air. The little dancers rise from their places and carry plates of offerings upon their heads to eight altars at the eight points of the compass. The Guru then puts on the mask of the hermit. On to every girl is tied a cotton thread steeped in holy water. He asperges each one slightly and anoints her on the forehead with perfume. All the girls put on their masks and dance in graceful groups, while the music ripples liquid, shrill and captivating, until the lights flicker out and the glitter of golden jewels and crocus-coloured visage fades away.

In Indonesia

In the ninth century the Ramayana was sculptured on "the Temple of the Slender Maiden" at Prambanan in Indonesia.



Lord Rama

These sculptures differ from the classical Indonesian epic by the poet Yogeshvara. It means that the Ramayana was prevalent in Indonesia in several versions. The Ramayana reliefs at Panataran in the 14th century display the predominance of local style. The entire story is not shown, but only those scenes in which Hanuman and his simian army play a role. It points to the crystallisation of particular Ramayana scenes as prominent among the repertoire of the performing arts.

Since the 18th century the Ramayana became a dominant element in the performing arts of the countries of South-East Asia. In Laos, Phra Anurut (King Aniruddha) constructed the new pagoda of Vat Mai. On its pylon are carved episodes from the epic. Of about the same period is the Vat Pa Ke with the most complete paintings of the Ramayana in Laos. Needless to say that the Ramayana plays a

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premier role in the modern ballet of Laos.

The Ballet School at Vien- ianne teaches it regularly with ppropriate music and dance. When Princess Dala (Tara), daughter of King Savang Vat- hana, was married, the Rama- ana was danced in full regalia nd splendour at the Royal Court f Luang Prabang.

Rama saga

The Ramakien or Ramakirti is nown to Thai choreography in arious forms like the masked- lay, the shadow play, and as iterary compositions emanating rom the Thai monarchs them- lves. The only complete ver- en is that of King Rama I, and he most representable on the tage is that of King Rama II. The Silpakon or Royal Fine Arts Department at Bangkok adapts hese versions to suit the occasion ith portions sung from these two ersions.

The Malaysian Hikayat Seri Rama of the 15th century has een a basis for the repertoire of Malay shadow-plays. The popu- arity of the Rama saga in Malay- ia is attested by a variety of local iterary versions. The Malaysian *alang* may perform two to three hundred shows a year. The hows ar not mere entertainment. e performances are preceded a ritual, offerings are made d invocations directed to en- re harmony.

Burma, too, has known the Ramayana since early centuries of the modern era. King Kyan- zittha of the 12th century styled himself as a descendant of Rama. But the performance of the Rama saga or Yama-pwe was intro- duced into Burma in 1767 from Thailand after the Burmese con- quest of Thailand. The per- ormance of the Yama-pwe used continue up to 21 nights, but ese days it is a series of per- rmances extending up to 12 ghts.

The story of Rama spread into the northernmost lan[illegible] Asia via Tibet, where it is [illegible] in two versions in manuscripts of the 7-9th centuries from the grottoes of Tun-huang, in an early 15th century poetical form and in several other versions.

From Tibet, the Ramayana reached Mongolia and thence spread far to the West, to the banks of the Volga. A folk version in the Kalmuk language is known from a manuscript preserved at the Siberian Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union.

In the continuity of the cultural space of Nepal, coterminous with its depth and beauty, is the Ramayaṇa effecting all its dimensions, both individual and collective. Nepal has the glory of preserving the oldest manuscripts of the Ramayana of Valmiki dating to AD 1075.

The legend of Rama has ever found echoes at all levels of her existence and consciousness, and it is but natural that the highest expression of modern Nepalese poetry should be Bhanubhkia Acharya's verse, written around AD 1840.

In the backyards of the collective unconscious of the Philippines are repeated resonances of the epic of Rama. In 1968, Prof Juan R. Francisco discovered among the Muslim Maranaw a miniature version of the Ramayana as an *avatar* of the remote literature of pre-Hispanic pre-Islamic Philippines. Among other Muslim tribes of the Philippines like the Magindana and the Sulu, too, folk recitations of this great epic survive in diluted versions.

In about the end of the ninth-century we even find an East Iranian version of the Ramayana in an Iranian dialect prevalent in Khotan in Central Asia.

Thus we see that the Rama legend became a living unity of values in Asian societies. A literary oeuvre of sweeping majesty, it has gathered a momentum of its own, manifesting itself in the narrative arts of recitation by storytellers, in declamations (as in Indonesia), in the performing arts of classical ballet, theatre and shadow-play, or featured in the plastic arts of stone sculptures, wood carvings, and paintings; and lastly, flourishing in creative writings in prose and poetry. It has been a force, a movement to translate social patterns, eternity of ideals and to explore realities of human existence.

In 1971, Indonesia held the First International Ramayana Festival and Seminar "to create a favourable atmosphere for mutual understanding and friendship," in the words of His Excellency Mohammad Noor, the Governor of East Java. Speaking at the Seminar, Prof Soedarsono of Indonesia said that the Indonesian puppet play and dance drama regard Rama to be an incarnation of Vishnu to vanquish evil. He is the ancestor of the Javanese, more human than divine. Rama is beautiful, refined, self-composed, and dearly loved by the people. Rama is the ideal hero and the manifestation of good in the Indonesian theatre.

Today, Rama means the protector, the guide and thepreserver. The love for Rama has been extended by the use of the word in Javanese for Catholic 'fathers' or priests. Thus, this encounter in Indonesia once again brought home to the assembled representatives of different countries that we are pilgrim beings in the ideals of the Rama saga, walking together in the vital rhythms of ever-receptive forms and values.

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Short Story

The Clever Wife

In Srinagar, there once lived a merchant who had a large house, plenty of money and many servants. But alas! He was an unhappy man. His only son, Bayu was not very clever. He was not good at arithmetic and couldn't keep accounts. He couldn't even bargain! The merchant worried about him. "What will my son do after I die?" he thought. "Some rogue will cheat him of everything I have earned."

He thought for a long time about what he should do. Finally, he called the boy to him one day and said, "Bayu, in a few years I shall no longer be here to guide you. So you must remember the advice I am about to give you. I shall write it down for you if you like."

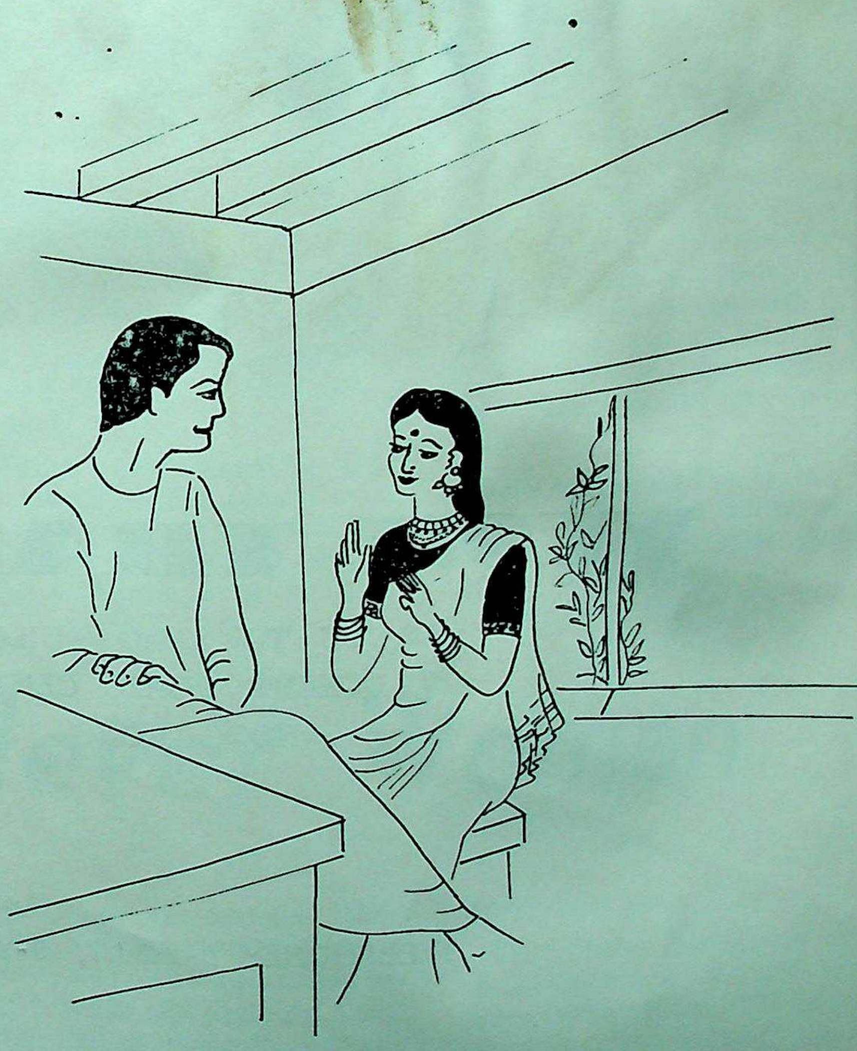
"Do that, father," said the boy. "It will help me to remember."

"Do not walk in the sunshine from your house to the shop," wrote the old merchant. "Let rice be your daily food. And, last of all, marry a new wife every week."

Bayu looked at the instructions and was puzzled. "What do you mean, father?" he asked. "I shall do what you say, but I do not understand how it will help me."

"Never mind," said the merchant. "In time, you will."

A few years later the merchant died. Bayu remembered the advice he had been given. He felt he must obey at once in order to please his father who had been so kind to him. He had said, "Do not walk in the sunshine." What could Bayu do? Should he build a sheltered road from his home to the shop that his father had left him? It was a costly project and everybody began to make fun of Bayu for his folly.



"He'll spend all his money on this project," said one, "and then he won't have a shop to go to."

Bayu was upset by all that was said but he was determined to do as his father had advised.

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"Let rice be your daily food," was the next thing he had said. That would be easy in the beginning but would soon become rather dull.

The third piece of advice was the worst of all. No girl would agree to marry him for only a week. Bayu became the laughing-stock of the whole town.

One day, a young girl called Miriam, heard the story of Bayu and the old merchant's advice. She understood at once what the old merchant had meant. She felt sorry for Bayu and did not like everyone laughing at him. She admired him for trying to do what he felt to be his duty. She told her family that she would marry him. Her family was horrified. "What will you do when he sends you away after a week?" they cried.

"He won't,, said Miriam confidently. "You'll see."

When Bayu met Miriam he wanted very much to marry her for she was both beautiful and charming. He did not know that she knew his story. When he told her of his father's advice she said, "I know all about it. Do not worry about what will happen to me."

They had a grand wedding. There were coloured lights and music and lots of good things to eat. There were many guests who enjoyed themselves. But that did not stop them from saying, "How silly the whole affair is. The young wife will have to leave in a week."

The week passed too quickly. On the seventh day, Bayu woke up feeling miserable. "Today I will have to send Miriam away. I will have to find fault with her," he said to himself, "otherwise she will not go."

But Miriam had already guessed what he would do. The seventh evening, when he came home to dinner, Bayu said, "Bring me the pulav you have cooked."

Miriam brought in a steaming plate of pulav with delicious pieces of mutton in it.

"Take it away at once," said Bayu angrily. "It looks terrible. Bring me some rice and fish."

A few minutes later Miriam came back with rice and fish.

"I detest this variety of fish," shouted Bayu. "I would rather eat mud."

Miriam took away the dish and returned with a plate of mud. Bayu knew he was defeated. "Go away", he said sadly. "I can not keep you. I must do as my father advised."

"You are a foolish fellow," said Miriam sitting down by his side. "Your father was wise and kind. Do you think he would really tell you to do things that would make you the laughing-stock of the whold town?"

"What did he mean, then, by his strange advice?"

"When he said that you should never walk in the sunshine from your house to the shop, he meant that you should go to the shop early in the morning, return late and work at your business all day. When he told you to eat only rice he meant you should eat what was necessary and not be extravagant."

"But the third wish," cried Bayu. "That can only mean what it says. Marry a new wife every week."

"No," said Miriam. "Your father meant that you should always treat your wife lovingly. If you always welcome her with the same love as you did when you were first married, she would be like a new wife to you each week."

Bayu was amazed by his wife's wisdom. He loved her all the more for it and they spent many happy years together.

The Clever Woman

A certain king had an ignorant and stupid son. He had sworn that if ever he married, he would eat each meal only after striking his wife on the head twice with his shoe. Whenever a marriage proposal was sent to him he told the messengers of his vow. Under the circumstances, all those who sent proposals, withdrew them. Who would want his daughter to be thus insulted?

In the neighbourhood, there happened to live another king. He had a daughter, who, both in beauty and cleverness, had no rival. When she came to know of the foolish prince's vow, she said to one of her maids, "If a woman is clever, she will never submit to the prince's foolish whim."

When the maid heard this, she said to her mockingly, "There is no woman cleverer than you. Why don't you marry him and display your genius?"

The princess immediately took up the challenge. She sent word to her father saying, "If it pleases you, I am ready to marry the so-called stupid prince."

The king, unable to understand why his daughter wanted to marry a proven fool, said, "Dear daughter, have you gone crazy? The prince has taken a vow to strike his wife's head twice with his shoe before having his meals.

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But the confident princess, replied, "If I have even a spark of intelligence in me, I will not submit to his stupidity for a single day."

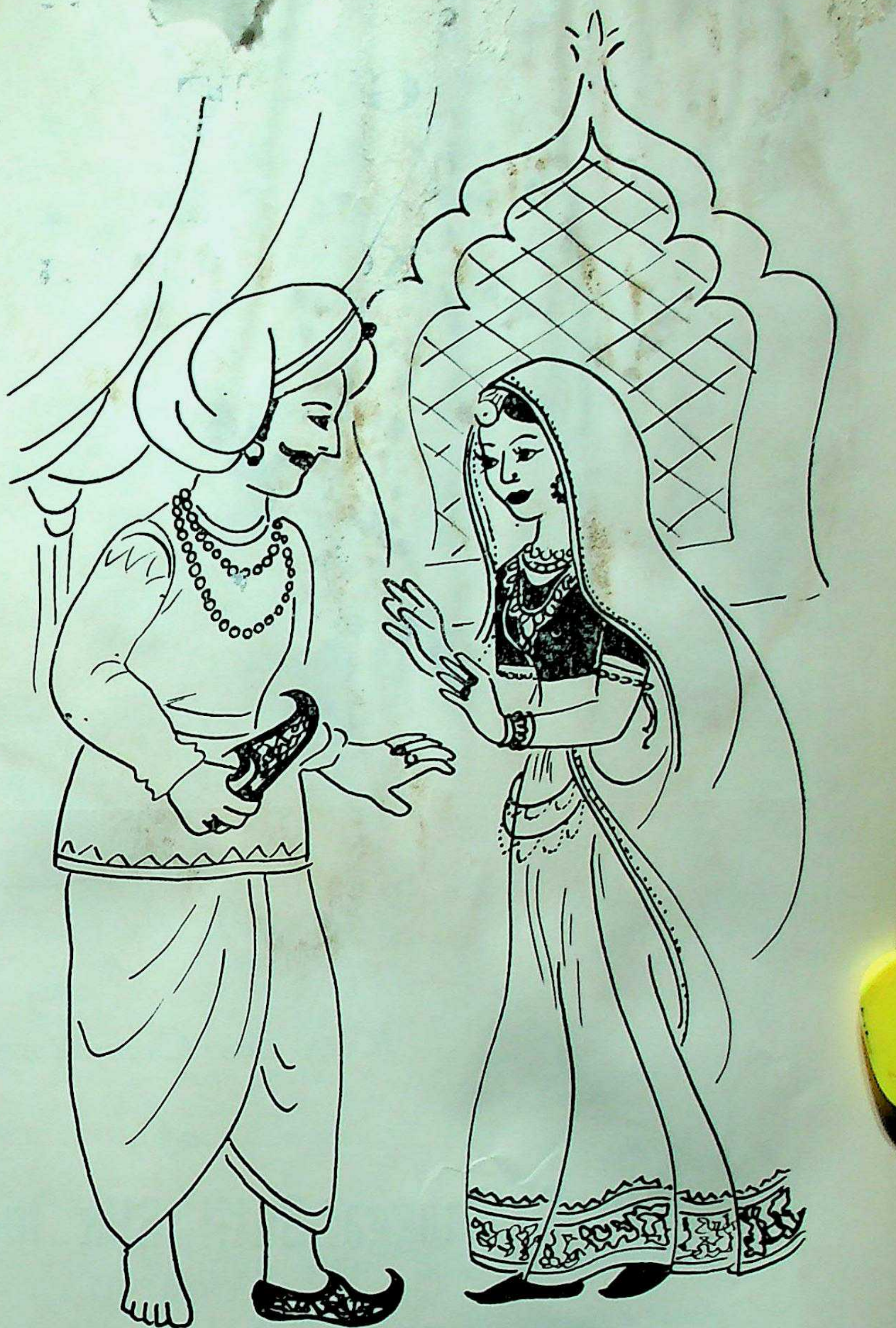
The king tried to dissuade the princess from her resolve but it was all in vain. Then he said, "Let her have her own way. Send the proposal of mariage."

The prince, pleased to hear that his condition was accepted, soon arrived to marry the princess. As soon as he arrived at his father-in-law's, he took out his shoe to strike the head of his prospective wife to permit them to return immediately. The father-in-law gave his permission and the prince returned home with his bride.

As soon as they reached home he bent to remove his shoe. But the ever resourceful princess said, "Not yet! For the moment, I depend upon my father-in-law for my needs. You would be entitled to have your way only when you begin to earn and support me."

This remark stung the prince. He went to his father and said, "I beg of you to allow me to go out and earn some money." The king tried to persuade him not to. But finding his son adamant he gave in.

Carrying a huge purse of gold coins, the prince left the house. On the way, he chanced to stay at a village which was notorious for being the home of dacoits. The dacoits, finding a handsome and wealthy-looking victim in their midst, caught hold of the rein of his horse and said, "How can your honour pass through our village without enjoying the feast which we have organised for you? You are our distinguished guest. Your worthy father has all along been very kind to us." Thoroughly flattered, the prince accepted their invitation. The dacoits gathered together and served the prince a scrumptuous dinner.



When the feast was still in progress, one of the dacoits said, "I seem to have lost my gold winecup." On hearing this, those present at the feast, created pandemonium shouting: "Who has taken it?" "Where can it go?" "May be this prince has taken it.’ "Let's search him."

Greatly agitated by this false charge, the prince cried out, "Why should I take your gold cup. I have not even seen what it's like."

Then one of the dacoits shouted, "The host says that it is none other than the prince who has taken it."

Upon this, the others decided to call the headman of the village to settle the matter. The headman declared that if the gold cup was found with the host, he would have to part with all his wealth in favour of the prince. In the same way, if the prince was found guilty, the host would be entitled to confiscate all the wealth on his person. Both the host and the prince agreed to this condition. Accordingly, a search was made, and as would be ex-

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pected in a village infested with dacoits, the cup was found on the person of the prince, tied to a corner or his outer garment. The prince's purse containing gold coins was snatched away by the dacoits and he was turned out of the village.

What could the poor prince do? With what face could he go before his father? After thinking for a while, he decided to become a wood cutter. He sold head-loads of wood and somehow kept his body and soul together.

In the meanwhile, a spy employed by his wife to watch his movements, recognised the prince in his state of abject misery. He rushed to the princess and told her about the miserable condition of the prince.

Finding her husband thus surrounded in a whirlpool of misfortune, the princess sent word to her father-in-law, the king, saying, "I beg leave of you to be permitted to go on a pilgrimage." Having obtained the permission, taking one or two trusted men with her, the princess started on a voyage in the guise of a man. In a few days, she too reached the village of the dacoits.

The dacoits were overjoyed to find another rich victim so soon, when they saw the princess (now in the guise of a man) passing through their village. They met her on the way and requested her to accept their hospitality for the night, which she did. When the feast was still on, the host, as before, succeeded in tying his gold cup to a corner of the princess's outer garment. The clever princess, without being observed, unfastened the cup and hid it under the carpet.

According to plan the dacoits created the same fuss and confusion about the loss of a gold cup and blamed the princess for having stolen it. The headman was called and the same conditions were laid down. A search was made and this time the gold cup was found concealed under the carpet of the host. The princess took possession of all the wealth belonging to the host. She then rented a house in the same village and began to live like an aristocrat. She asked her cooks to provide meals to all the poor who happened to pass that way. Apart from this, she herself kept an eye on all those visiting her kitchen.

Once it so happened that the prince, weak with hunger and thirst, passed that way. He decided to refresh himself at the generous lady's kitchen. He was dressed in torn and dirty clothes. A mere fragment of cloth was on his head for a turban and it appeared that he had not shaved for days together. In his hand he carried an axe and a piece of string. As soon as he sat down to eat, the princess recognised him. When he had finished his meals, the princess called him in and said, "Are you prepared to serve here?"

The prince replied, "I am prepared to serve in whatever way it pleases you."

The princess then sent for a barber and asked him to shave the prince, massage him and give him a good bath. Then she gave the prince new clothes to wear. The princess then collected his torn and dirty clothes, his hair, the axe and the string and packed them into a box.

After a few days, she called the prince to her and said, "I am going back to my village. I am giving you this box containing all my wealth as a parting gift." And the princess left the village.

When the prince came into this unexpected wealth, he regained his previous enthusiasm. He sent word to his father saying, "I have fulfilled my mission. I am returning home."

Reaching home, obviously in great excitement, he met his parents in haste and then hurried towards the apartments of his wife. As soon as he entered her room, he took off his shoe to strike her head. But the princess, stopped him saying, "By all means please yourself but first let me see what you have brought in that box."

The prince readily opened the box, but when he placed it before her, he was stunned to find that it contained his own torn and dirty clothes, his hair and his axe. Thoroughly ashamed, he fell at the feet of his wife and requested her not to reveal the secret to anyone.

Thereafter the prince was completely cured of his foolish whims.

Valiant Sikh foils UK robbers

Mr Surinder Singh, an Indian sub-postmaster in London, told bandits threatening to stab him if he would not hand over the keys to the post office safe: "You will have to kill me first before you get anything."

The 38-year-old Sikh added: "I am employed by the British government and must be true to my salt to the last breath," says a report in "The Times", London.

One of the two young attackers, armed with a hammer, then told his accomplice, "OK, kill him," when Mr Singh refused to give up the keys of the post-office. But, as the other man moved in with a knife, Mr Singh's wife, Mrs Sharan (30), leapt at him, gashing her hand in the process.

"If it had not been for her, I would have surely been somewhere else by now," Mr Singh, father of two children, said.

The bandits took to their heels after meeting with such unexpected resistance. The Sikh couple are likely to be honoured by the British government.

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Gandhi Memor School Djakarta

— An Outstanding Monument —

The Gandhi Memorial School, Djakarta is an outstanding monument of the public spirit of the Indian community. The school was started about 12 years ago by the Indian community with the funds raised from its members. It is an English medium school where over 1000 pupils study which includes Indians, Indonesian, Thai's, Vietnamese, Europeans and Americans. The standard of teaching and English medium are so good as to a draw for diplomatic children. Five of the school teachers have been contributed by the Indian Government who also flew out 2500 Kilograms load of books from New Delhi for the school library. The school is headed by Mr V. Ram.

The school has been visited by many Indian leaders including Mrs Indira Gandhi, Sardar Swaran Singh, Dr Karan Singh and others. The Governor of Djakarta and a popular Indonesian leader Mr Ali Sidikin is a patron of the school.

The school management has undertaken an expansion project. It has been given about 10,000 square meters of choice land in a prestigeous part of Djakarta where work has begun to build a new complex—a school, a polytechnic, an auditorium, a prayer hall, a swimming pool, playground sand quarters for teachers. All costs are to be met by the Indian community. When completed by the end of 1974, the new school complex will be yet another monument to the public spirit and social obligations of the Indian community.

Shri Maharaj Charanjit Singhji of Beas signing the visitors book. Looking on is the Principal Mr V. Ram. •

The popular Indonesian leader and Governor of Djakarta H.E. Ali Sidikin enjoys a chat with pupils of the school. He has been a kind patron of this institution.

Sardar Swaran Singh India's Foreign Minister enjoys his temporary role of a teacher. Seen with him are pupils and teachers of the school.

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Children's Day Celebration

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's Birthday which falls on November 14 is celebrated as Children's Day all over India, and by the Indian community around the globe. Our correspondents from various cities have filed in report on the celebrations, some of which are published below. Childen's Day has become an occasion for the Overseas Indians to tell their children and children of local groups something about Indian culture and the tradition of Nehru.

CHILDREN'S DAY ABROAD

Washington:

A colourful function was held at the residence of the Indian Ambassador to the U.S.A., Mr T. N. Kaul on November 14 to mark Children's Day which falls on the late Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday. About 150 American and Indian children gathered at the Embassy and received gifts on the occasion.

Beirut:

Children's Day was celebrated jointly by the Indian Association and the Indian Embassy in Beirut. Children, both Indian and local, as well as members of the Indian community participated. The Indian Ambassador, Mr Amrik S. Mehta, presided over the function.

The programme included films on Nehru and India, games for children and cultural programme. A Lebanese boy recited a poem paying tribute to Mr Nehru.

Dr Clovis Maksoud former Arab League representative in New Delhi, attended the function and spoke on various aspects of Nehru's personality.

Algiers:

The day was celebrated in a befitting manner at the secondary school complex in Ain Taya, Algiers. The ceremony was attended by 800 students and staff and by high officials of the Ministry of Education and officials of all departments. School children presented Indian dances. Ambassador Shahabuddin and the Director of the school spoke on the occasion and Madame Shahabuddin presented gifts.

Kuala Lumpur

A function organised in the Indian High Commission was attended by 40 school children. The wife of the Indian High Commissioner, Mrs Rita Dar received the children and presided over the programme. The function concluded with refreshments for the children and the screening of a documentary film life.

Buenos Aires:

Children's Day and Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday were observed in Buenos Aires when a colourful function was held in the Republic of India School on November 14, under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and the Embassy of India.

The Ambassador of India, Mr Madan Mohan Khurana, and the Director of one of the prominent schools in Buenos Aires, who represented the Ministry of Education, spoke on the significance of the day and emphasised the growing friendly relations between India and Argentina. Prizes donated by the Indian Embassy were distributed to children who had won in painting and other competitions held earlier.

Suva-Fiji:

Prime Minister Ratu Sir K. K. T. Mara, unveiled a bronze bust of Mr Nehru donated by the Indian Government at the Nehru Memorial School, Suva.

The Prime Minister, speaking on the occasion, recalled his meeting with Nehru in 1961. He lauded Mr Nehru's contribution to international peace through non-alignment and said that the concept of non-alignment was now universally accepted.

Another celebration was held at the Suva civic auditorium and was attended by Ministers, parliamentarians and other dignitories. Suva's Mayor, Mr Isireli Vunibau spoke on Nehru as an international personality and his contributions to the commonwealth and the United Nations.

The Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of the South Pacific, Prof. Brosnahan elucidated Nehru's contribution in the field of letters, philosophy and education. Students of the Indian Cultural Centre, Suva presented devotional folk and classical group songs, dances and instrumental recitals.

London:

The Children's Day was celebrated at India House in London on the 15th November coinciding with Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday under the auspices of the India League. Children from all over the United Kingdom took part. They were welcomed by Mr Julius Silverman, M.P. and Mr

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B. K. Nehru, the High Commissioner and Mrs Sobha Nehru and were later entertained to light Indian refreshments. A special film show and a magic show by the renowned Indian magician Gogia Pasha were also held on the occasion. The celebrations culminated with the distribution of prizes by Mrs Sobha Nehru to all children.

Warsaw:

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday and Children's Day was celebrated at a function at the Indo-Polish Friendship Society in Warsaw on the 14th November. A photo exhibition on the life and time of Pandit Nehru was inaugurated by Ambassador Natwar Singh. A film documentary on Jawaharlal Nehru was also screened. The function was attended by Chairman and members of the Indo-Polish Friendship Society, Indian Embassy officials, journalists and officials of the Polish Foreign Office.

Nairobi:

Nehru Jayanti celebrations were organised by the Indian High Commission, Nairobi, on November 14 with Nehru "On The Spot" painting competition in a local school in which over 400 children — African, Asian and European—took part. They were provided sweets, refreshments and entertained to a film show. A children's party was hosted by the Indian High Commissioner and Shrimati K. C. Nair.

Khartoum:

Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday was celebrated as Children's Day in the Indian Embassy with a cultural programme. Sports and on the spot painting competition for children were held on November 9 and 11. Dances and other cultural items were presented by children of different nationalities from various schools before an international gathering of over 450. Over 200 children from 15 nationalities participated in the painting competition. This was followed by documentary films. Mrs Singh, wife of the Ambassador, gave away over 50 prizes to the participants in the painting, sports and cultural competition.

Belgrade:

The 85th birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru was celebrated by Dom Pioneer, Belgrade, on November 15 at a colourful function presided over by Mrs Malini Menon, wife of the Indian Ambassador. The proceedings, including a talk on the significance of Children's Day, were conducted entirely by Indian and Yugoslav children. Over 200 children of both countries participated. Items of songs and dances were given by Indian and Yugoslav children. The function ended with films on Nehru and glimpses of India.

Tripoli:

Pandit Nehru's great qualities were extolled at the birth anniversary celebrations held at the Indian Embassy in Tripoli on November 14. Those present included all Arab and other Ambassadors.

The Ambassadors of France, Egypt, Yugoslavia and Iraq paid tributes to Panditji's outstanding contribution to freedom movements not only in India but elsewhere and to the growth of processes of democratic socialism.

The Ambassador of Egypt thanked India for its noble stand in the present West Asia conflict, adding that since 1929 Nehru had maintained that Palestine was a part of the Arab nation.

Georgetown:

Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday was celebrated in Georgetown as Children's Day in which about 400 children participated from various schools, including Indian cultural centre. Dance and music items by the tiny tots of Guyana especially those trained by our cultural centre were a treat to witness. The function was inaugurated by Mrs Gopal Singh, wife of the Indian High Commisioner.

An exhibition of about 400 paintings by Guyana children was also held. Prizes will be distributed on the birthday of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi on November 19 by the Mayor of Georgetown, Mrs Beryl Simon. The press carried an article entitled "Nehru—What He Is to The World" contributed by the Indian High Commissioner, Dr Gopal Singh.

Over 400 children participated in the Sixth Nehru "On-the-Spot" Painting Competition at Hospital Hill School on November 14. Photograph shows from left to right: High Commissioner K. C. Nair, Headmaster Ruffley and Mrs K. C. Nair seeing children at work.

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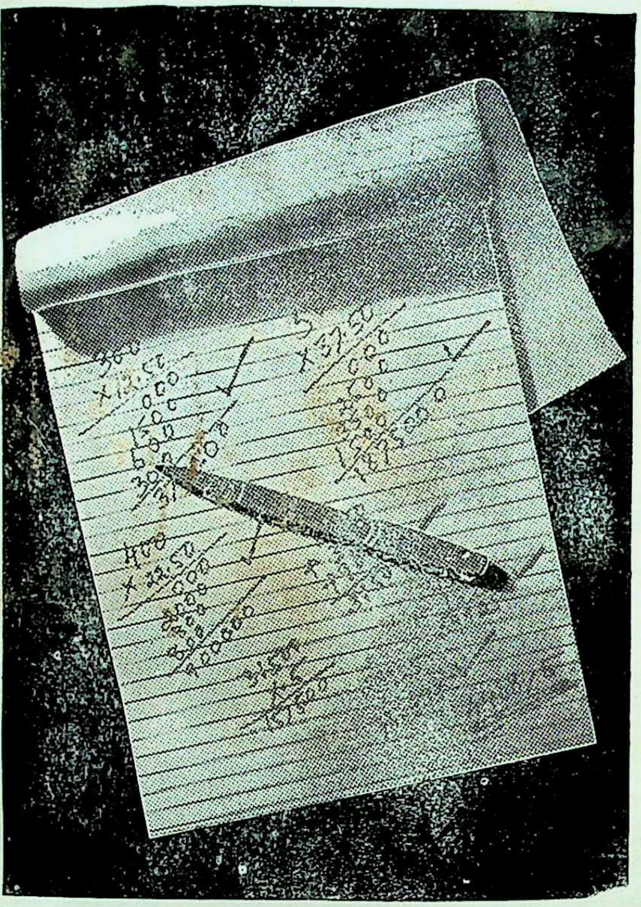

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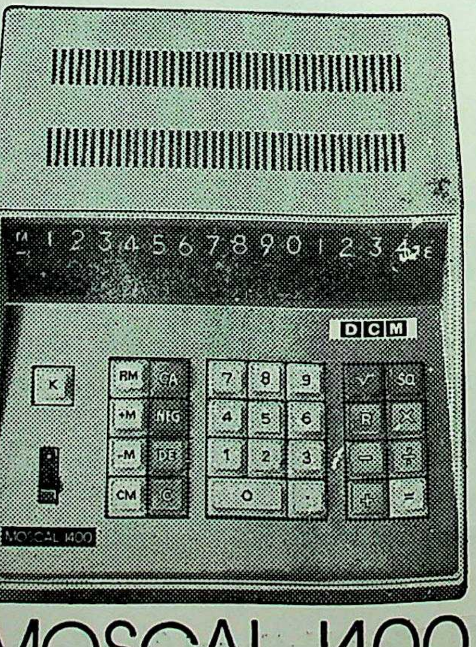

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From Film[illegible]d

Priyalata Pal

SHARMILA TAGORE

Her Eyes Are A Treasure

Dimple cheeked Sharmila Tagore, co-stars opposite Shashi Kapoor and Shatrughan Sinha in 'Aa Gale Lag Jaa'.

Sharmila Tagore known as the 'Bengal Tigress' is a top scorer in the heroine ranks, with a charming personality and remarkable talent for acting.

Although a Bengali Hindu by birth, but after her marriage to the Cricketer-Prince—Nawab of Pataudi, she was converted to Islam. Begum Ayesha Sultan is her name off the screen.

Though she has not many hit films to her credit, yet her roles have been memorable. You may forget her film but not her performance in it. She has a certain quality of attracting and holding the audience's interest. Because of her sensitivity for emotional roles, she is able to give too much reliance on her eyes to express every emotion, particularly in highly dramatic scenes.

The Sharmila Tagore—Rajesh Khanna romantic team gave us such lovely films as Aradhana, Amar Prem, Daag, etc.

A fine and gifted actress, she has worked in all types and categories of films and rose to be one of the top-notcher heroines of the Hindi screen. Currently, she has about a dozen shooting assignments opposite actors like Sanjeev Kumar, Shashi Kapoor, Shatrughan Sinha, and Amitabh Bachchan and two against ex-leading man Rajesh Khanna—Basu Bhattacharya's "Aavishkar" and Kabir's "Taag". Both these films are ready for release.

SHATRUGHAN SINHA

The He-man brag and bran

Shatrughan Sinha—the star who always manages to be in the news, has been playing lead roles opposite some of the most successful heroines in film industry. This is all because of his hard work and self-confidence.

Shatru's pull is chiefly with the youth who like him as an "Anti-hero", and he continues to impress his fans with his on-screen personality, his highly individualistic style of acting, which is totally different from other conventional actors. He has the sort of projection which a man needs to be a star.

Though Shatrughan Sinha has been acknowledged as being one of the most talented actors to emerge in the last few years, yet he is described as the most typed actor, whch is probably due to his repetitious style of dialogue, delivery and the repeated stances he assumes in any role, be it that of a villain or a hero. As a villain he turns out to be exceptionally good, with his robust figure, a good commanding voice and the scar on his face that add to the image of a tough-guy.

Shatrughan does not get emotionally involved with any girl, at the cost of his profession, though he has this charm of hypnotizing people with his talk and holding their attention, or he believes there are yet a lot of ambitions to be achieved and lots of milestones to be covered. Shatru has many films to his credit, and among the recent one's are—Aa Gale Lag Jaa, Sabaak, Heera, Gulam Begum Badshah, Badla etc.

Shatrughan Sinha as he appears in 'Aa Gale Lag Jaa'.

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critic Firoze Rangoonwala has provided script and visual material. Shri David Abraham is the commentator. The exciting film has been directed by V. K. Sharma.

Waheeda engaged to Farid

Waheeda Rehman is engaged to be married to Farid Siddique.

The news of charming Waheeda's engagement to handsome Farid Siddique—a businessman of Nazibabad (U.P.) was received in film circles with a pleasant surprise. She has received messages of congratulations form her countless fans and admirers.

Nay, ever Farid was her fan and passionately loved this star of stars, little realising that this 'Chaudvi-ka Chand' will fall in his lap! He has everything in him—features and fortune, a rare artist and a sensitive person.

Waheeda may not act in films any more. She will play a new role of a house-wife, after achieving glory and name on the silver screen. She has had no known love affairs though she had a special liking for Dilip. It is destiny, she believes that shapes our ends. She also liked Amitabh, Sunil Dutt and Dharmendra, a darling of many a damsel. She was destined to spend the rest of her years with fascinating Farid. So it has happened.

STOP PRESS

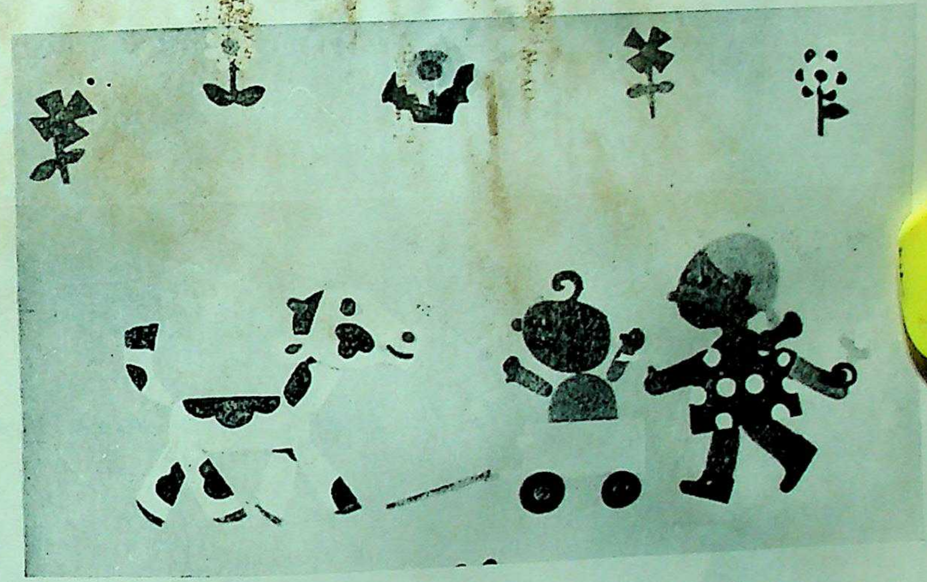
It has now been reported that Waheeda Rehman broke off her engagement with Farid. Now, we have to wait for her new find.

Festival of Czechoslovak Children Films

A week long festival of Czechoslovak Children Films was held in Bombay from November 25 to December 1, under the auspices of the Children's Film Society. The films have been received under the Indo-Czechoslovak cultural exchange programme.

Young folks in their large number turned out to see the interesting films—features as well as shots. Even the tiny totters were enthused to see the Czech films, particularly puppets and cartoons.

Czech Puppet



From a Czech film screened for children of Bombay.

Snow White

A still from the Czech film Snow White recently shown in Bombay.

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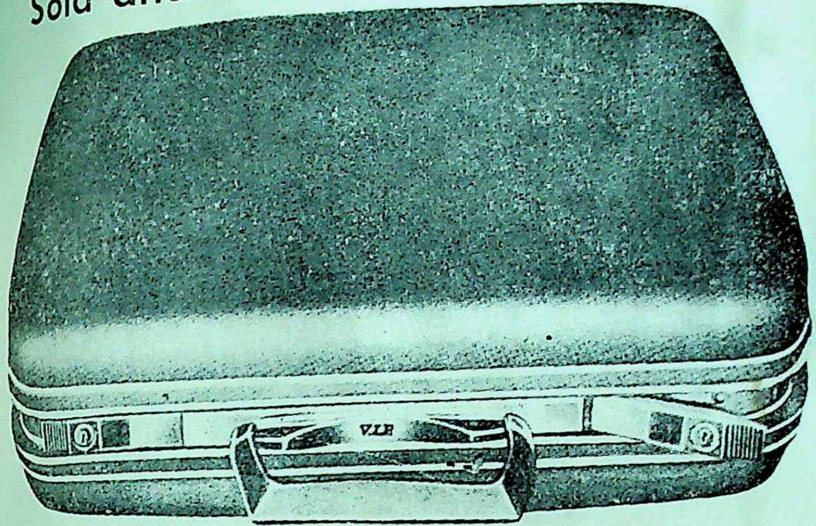

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Book Review

FROM CITIZEN TO REFUGEE — Uganda Asians come to Britain by Mahmood Mamdani (Frances Pinter) Shs. 16/50.

If we are to believe Mamdani, the 90—day ordeal of Uganda Asians after being given the marching orders was equal to the subsequent 90 days he spent in a refugee camp.

Only the mental torture was different in a different environment. Very early in the book, on page 24, when talking about the plight of the Asians, he says, "the Asians had simple become one collective football which each side tried to kick into the other's goal".

As a Uganda Asian, affected by General Amin's historic announcement to quit the land of his birth within 90 days, Mamdani paints a very graphic picture.

He spares no one—General Amin, the Uganda Army, the British High Commission in Kampala, the Uganda Resettlement Board and the Asians whose shrewd moves to transfer their assets before the quit order is well documented.

He thanks them all too. In his preface he says, "I would be less than honest if I thanked those primarily responsible for this book: General Amin and the Uganda Resettlement Board." A young Makerere lecturer, Mamdani writes with an eye for drama and colour when he presents a documentary film in prose of these 180 days that changed his and thousands of other lives.

This is perhaps the first book to be written about the exodus of the Uganda Asians and it shows the signs of hurry as it ends with a question mark without pointing out any solutions to the plight of his fellow refugees still suffering in the camps, according to his thesis.

For local readers, it is this second part of life in Britain that will prove to be a shocker. As an insider, Mamdani documents from the receiving end what it means to get 'free' meals, accomodation and dole money every weekend.

He is vitriolic about the treatment meted out to the refugees as he goes about detailing their daily chores and habitat.

"The crux of the matter was that we had refused to act as refugees: as helpless, well behaved children totally devoid of initiative, indiscriminately grateful for anything that may come their way; in other words, dependence personfied.

"It would all have happened according to text, except that we were Not refugees. Circumstances had deprived us of our possession, our humanity, we were willing to fight. We would have to be made into refugees."

He goes on with this telling account to point out how the refugee camp wardens were recruited from people who had "previous colonial experience" of dealing with British subjects and how they tempted some weak willed refugees into spying over the others to jobs and leave the camps. He also alleges how Uganda Resettlement Board inflates figures of Uganda Asians resettled by counting all those who came in to stay in the camps or a few days and later bought their own homes with their nest eggs and those who settled themselves on their own initiative.

In the first half, he admits how he came to admire General Amin after an off the cuff speech to Makerere undergraduates. He tells of how the Asians lived it up with all they had in the 90 days to burn up all what they could not take away; how they bought round the world tickets, how they sent car registration plates from Kenya and screwed them on to cars driven across the border and how the lower middle class faced the horrendous prostectus of starting life anew penniless.

The best chapter in the book is no doubt the first. Mamdani described how he was enjoying a Saturday night party with some African and Arab colleagues and switched on TV with beer and gin in their hands only to hear General Amin announcing "The Asians must leave".

As General Amin's announcement goes on he skilfully brings in flashbacks to explain the raising d'etaire behind it.

His most profound comment "Life WAS Good" and then the thunderclap of 'leave Uganda!' It may perhaps be prejudiced against the British but Mamdani's book must be read by all Brown Britons of Africa lest they deceive themselves about the streets paved with gold that lie awaiting for them in the UK.

—Kul Bhushan

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: South Africa

Dear Sir,

I would like to take exception to the comments which appeared in your October/November issue of 1973. You mentioned that South Africa is brutal as ever. This is a generalisation which does have the sympathy of your readers, but is far from the truth.

The truth is, that there has not been an exodus of Indian from South Africa back to the mother country, as a matter of fact, there hasn't been even one Indian who voluntarily wanted to return to his mother country or anywhere else for that matter.

Indians are not being thrown out of South Africa and they are not being persecuted. As a matter of fact, they are perfectly happy the way it is because they are being left alone and they are allowed to accumulate all the money they can, by using their own imagination.

I have just recently come back from Durban and, believe me, some Indian gentlemen have homes which would make the palaces of some of the Indians look like squatter huts.

Furthermore, any person who doesn't like it in South Africa, is free to go wherever he wants, and the government of South Africa will give him a one-way ticket.

Do you know how many Indians from Kenya and Uganda have asked for immigration permits to go to South Africa? It really couldn't be all that bad as you described in your comments.

Your comments are typical of what people have been led to believe and what they would like to hear, simply because they don't know anything else and they don't bother to find out.

Dirk M. Brink

Hong Kong.

A Prophet honoured at Home

Dear Sir,

A Japanese would prefer to travel by any airline other than the Japan Airlines—this was confided to me by a Japanese business • executive, a co-passenger on a Singapore Airlines flight. The reason he added, was that they were not well looked after by their airline.

Possibly nationals of other countries have similar grievances against their national airlines though ostensibly they are not as vocal and vociferous as we, Indians, are in evaluating Air India which incidentally provides personalised service to its passengers (nationals and aliens alike) as no other carrier does.

Koundinya

Hong Kong.

Momentous Appointment

Dear Sir,

A big industry, bent on its expansion programme, gets an appointment from the Chairman of a state autonomous board in India after a lot of humming and haw-ing. Incidentally, the board's own expension plans are very much dependent on the industry's plans for development.

Comes the hour of appointment. The top executives of the industry, sprucely dressed, armed with statistics and bulky documentary dossiers and with all relevant information on the tips of their tougues, walk gingerly towards the Chairman's Chamber.

Suddenly, they hear the rafters ring with noises—filthy abuses interspered with thundering blows and counter-blows.

And lo! The Chairman is engaged in a free-for-all with someone with minions (chaprasis and clerks) ranged on opposite sides, egging them on to put more punch in their fight. To the amazement of the executives waiting for the appointment, they realise that the Chairman's oponent is none other than an important member of the Board. They are at their wit's end, not knowing what to do—whether to look discreetly away to avoid embarrassment to the Chairman or to intervene and pull the contending forces apart. As if in answer to the dilemma, wiser members of the staff of the Board separate them, forcibly leading the Chairman to his Chamber and the Board member to somewhere out of sight.

After the interval of a few seconds, the interview starts. The Chairman nursing his facial injuries with a wet towel, is profusely apologetic letting loose a tirade on the incalcitrant member. Five, ten, and fifteen minutes of the precious interview are gone. The Chairman closes it agreeing without much ado to the industry's proposals, giving the executives no chance to put forward their arguments which had been assiduously prepared and rehearsed by them earlier. The executives bow out with an exchange of glances of smug satisfaction, at the unexpectedly successful aind smooth sailing upshot of this momentous interview.

Observer

New Delhi.

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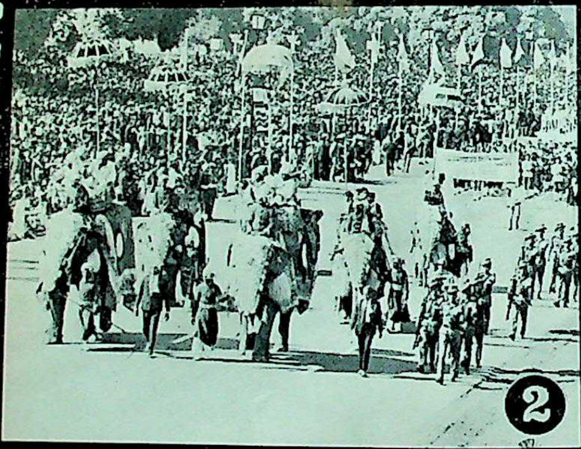

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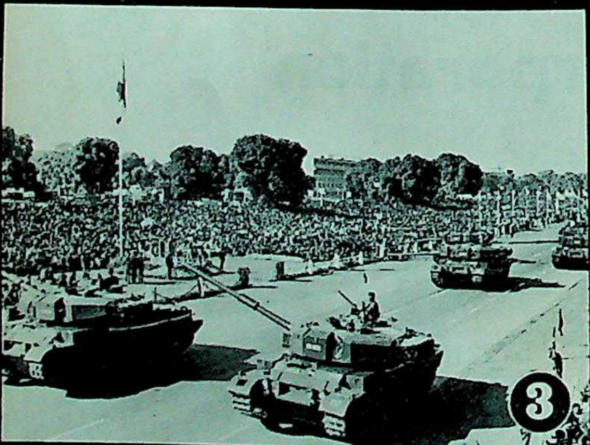

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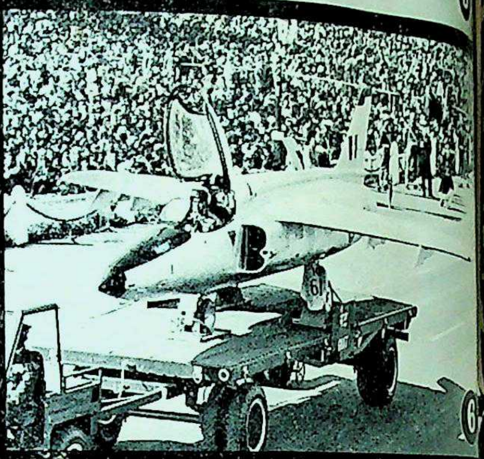

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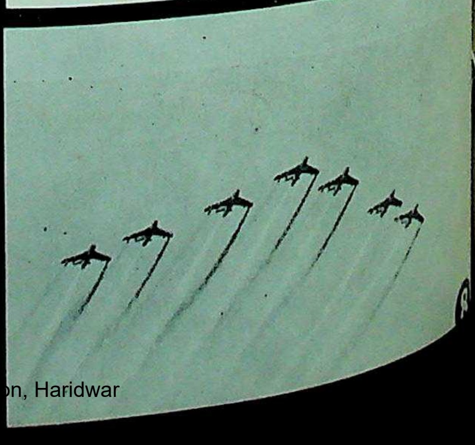

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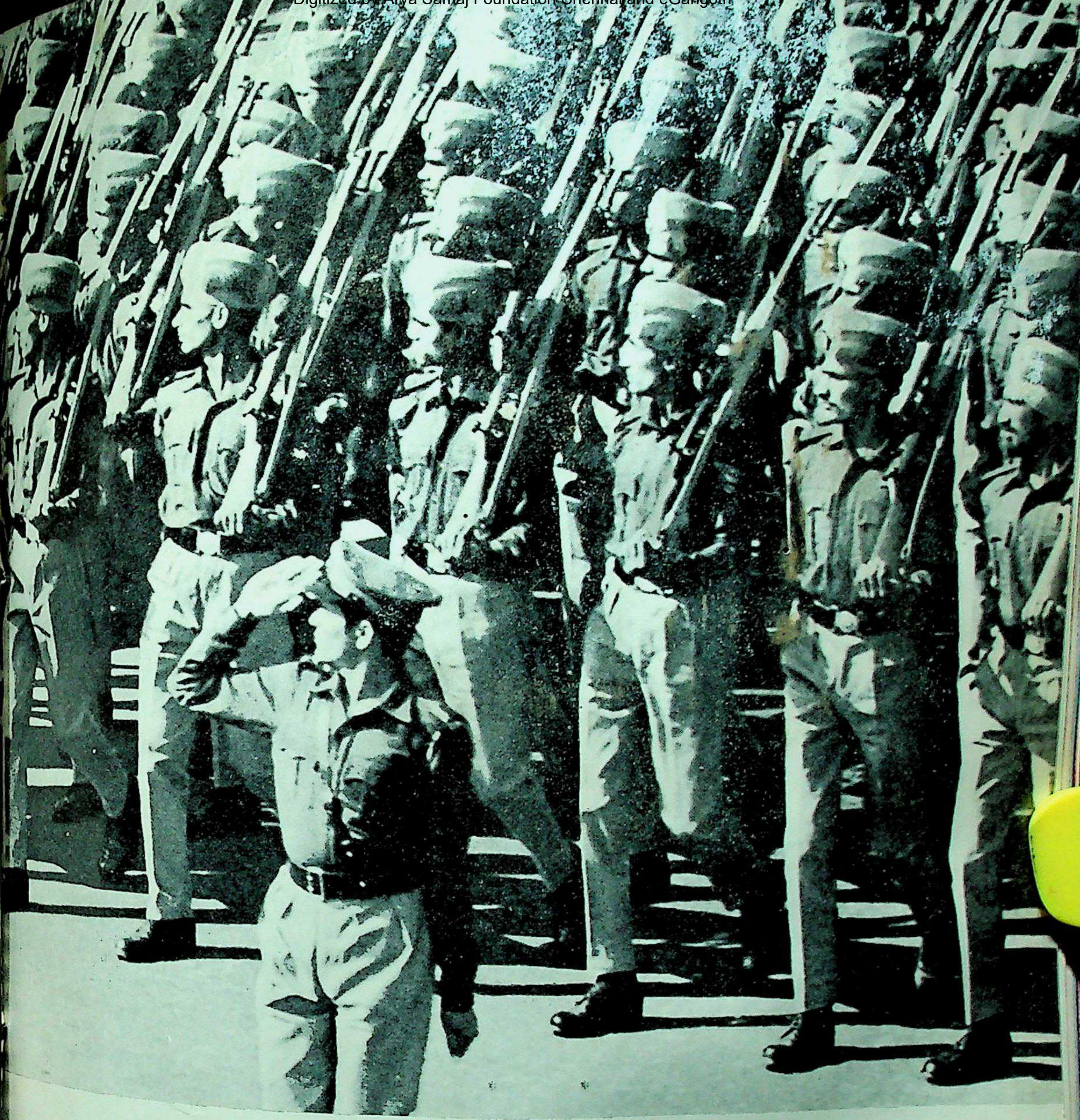

JAI JAWAN!

A photo tribute to the Indian soldier at Republic Day parade 1973
by our photographer, SUDESH TATERI

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Virulent drive against Tamil books

Leading newspapers in Sri Lanka have launched a virulent campaign against the import of Tamil books and periodicals, maintaining that much of these are "rubbishly obscene" and subversive in content.

The state-run Ceylon Daily News in a recent editorial described the average Tamil magazine as "a questionable item of commerce."

It also urged the government that to maintain the balance of trade with India in books and periodicals, India should be asked to buy from Sri Lanka publications worth at least 50 per cent of its value of export to this country. The paper called for a total ban on Indian books and periodicals which are not of educational or literary value.

Unrealistic Prices

A committee which probed the import of books and magazines has recommended control of their imports to "effectively prevent unethical and fictiour conversions of foreign exchange."

It also suggested that of the total exchange allocation for the import of the books and periodicals from India, at least 60 per cent should be for books of educational value and the balance for periodicals. The import of periodicals should be entrusted to a national body to ensure that the malpractices now prevalent were stamped out. The present basis of determining prices, the committee pointed out, as "unrealistic" because it was highly disadvantageous to the reader. The book-sellers should charge the mark price plus 15 per cent uniformly which would allow them a 40 per cent profit.

The controller of imports, Mr Harry Goneratne said that there was no ban as such on South Indian books and magazines, but "we will certainly not allow rubbish or obscene literature."

The government also feels that the curb will be an incentive to local Tamil writers.

TRIPOLI / LIBYA

First a word about Libya: Libya is part of North Africa right on the mediterranean coast with Sahara in the south full underneath with best quality of oil, water and other minerals. Its population is just around two million devout Arab Moslems with a land bigger than Egypt with whom Unity has been achieved. The Libyan Arab Republic, as it is called, is among the highest per capita income group, far ahead than that of Iran and Saudi Arabia. Climate of Libya is the best year around, water in Tripoli is pure and health-wise the cleanest. Tripoli and Benghazi are the main twin-cities. Libya's neighbours are Egypt, Sudan, Niger, Chad, Algeria, and Tunis. Libya with its open trade policy and plenty of foreign exchange (around 200 ships a month call on Tripoli Port in a slow month) serves as a shopping centre for its neighbours with high population. Libya is also a member of non-aligned countries; recent Algiers conference-summit was attended by Col. Muammer Gadafi—Head of State and an advocate of the 'Third Theory'.

Now about the Indians: When I first came to Tripoli in early 60s, there were hardly any Indians in comparison to their number at present. At present among the so-called senior fellow countrymen are M/s. Gobindram Jewakran, Mohandas, Kishu Mahbubani and Narsi Neechamall. The Indian Embassy was established in late 60s and at present H.E. Mr Homi Talyarkhan is the Ambassador here who has spared no pains to bring about the healthiest relations with the host country and India. M/s. Kamanis, Star, Dastur of India have extensive interests here and only last month Oil Agreement was signed on a bigger scale. Indian doctors, professors and specialists in various fields are engaged in Libya who work hand-in-hand with their Libyan hosts.

Recreational Activities: From June until October are summer months and are often spent down on the beach. Libya has about 2000 km of Mediterranean coast of blue beaches. Hindustani films are screened weekly in main Cinemas and mostly run to full capacity hall. Indian records are very popular here. Embassy arranges certain programmes frequently and private parties are held often. Roman ruins of Sabrata, Leptis Magna, Mountain resort of Garian along with other places are popular spots for sight-seeing and picnic. For a longer vaction non-stop flights to Rome, Paris, London, Zurich, Amsterdam, Cairo, Beirut, Tunis etc., are available almost daily.

—Chandur D. Gidwani.

KENYA

The Bank of Baroda

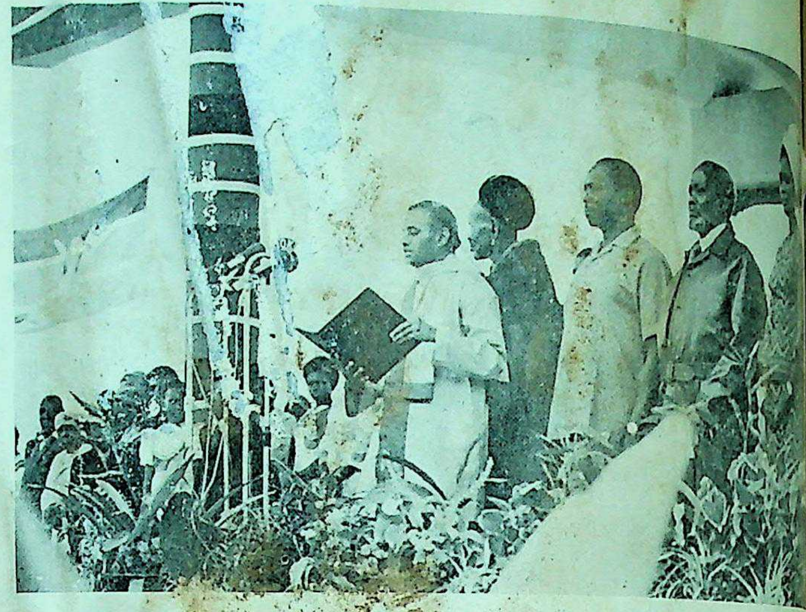
The chairman of Bank of Baroda, Mr Virsingh D. Thakkar arrived here this week to be greeted by businessman Peter Kenyatta son of President Kenyatta, senior government officials and leading local Indian businessmen and bank officials.

Speaking at the airport press conference, he said, experience in expanding banking services for majority of rural Indians could be usefully applied to Kenya. Such schemes included multi-service agency schemes for urban self-employed small scale borrowers and agricultural financing. Replying to charges of inefficiency in Indian banks after government takeover, he said, banking services had deterorated even before takeover. It had been a case of failure of management and poor industrial relations because of strong labour unions. Bank of Baroda, was happy at recent settlement with unions for stable industrial relations, he said. Today, Banks had broadened credit base for priority sector agriculture, small scale businessmen and exporters which accounted for one third of total credit of local banks. Almost forty percent went to incremental reserves and thus banks in India were today in vanguard of national development, said Mr Thakkar.

During his two weeks stay here, he is expected to tour all six local branches of his bank, study policy priorities and later introduce new schemes to help majority of Africans. He hopes to pay courtesy calls on President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, Vice-President Mr Daniel Arap Moi, Finance Minister, Mr Mwai Kibaki, Central Bank of Kenya governor Mr Duncan Ndegwa and other local leaders.

During a courtesy call by Mr Virsingh Thakkhar, Chairman of bank of Baroda, Mr Mwai Kibaki showed great interest in Indian's credit guarantee system for small scale borrowers and requested Bank Chief to send him more literature on scheme. He announced visit to India and Japan next March and said that he had to discuss double taxation agreement among other subjects. Mr Kibaki was greatly impressed by efforts of Indian Banks to serve small scale borrowers rural areas and provide multi-service agencies which were outlined by Mr Thakkar during three quarter hour visit in Ministers office. He paid warm tribute to Indian expertise when he said that before initiating Kenya Industrial Estates in Nairobi, Kenya Government approached United Nations to seek technical assistance and was told by World Body that, best assistance on this project was available in India. He added, Nairobi Estate was a resounding success now. He invited Indian Industrialists to initiate joint ventures in Kenya and said, his government offered protection and export incentives among other facilities to foreign industrialists. He referred to numerous joint Indo-Kenyan Industrial projects which were already a success in Kenya. He pointed out Kenya's tourists industry was booming and had attracted three L tourists annually, he expr surprise and commented tha thought the figure was m higher because India had so m to see and had had as much tory as Italy which attra twenty five Lakh tourists ev year. Indian exporters w getting more competition f Japan which was very health said.

Prayers for the President



Hindu priest, Pt. Shyam Sundar Sharak, prays for long life of President Jo Kenyatta at mammoth public rally in Nairobi to mark Kenyatta Day. Vi President D. T. arap Moi, President Kenyatta and Mama Ngina Kenya are seen in this picture by Kul Bhushan.

IBRD Meeting

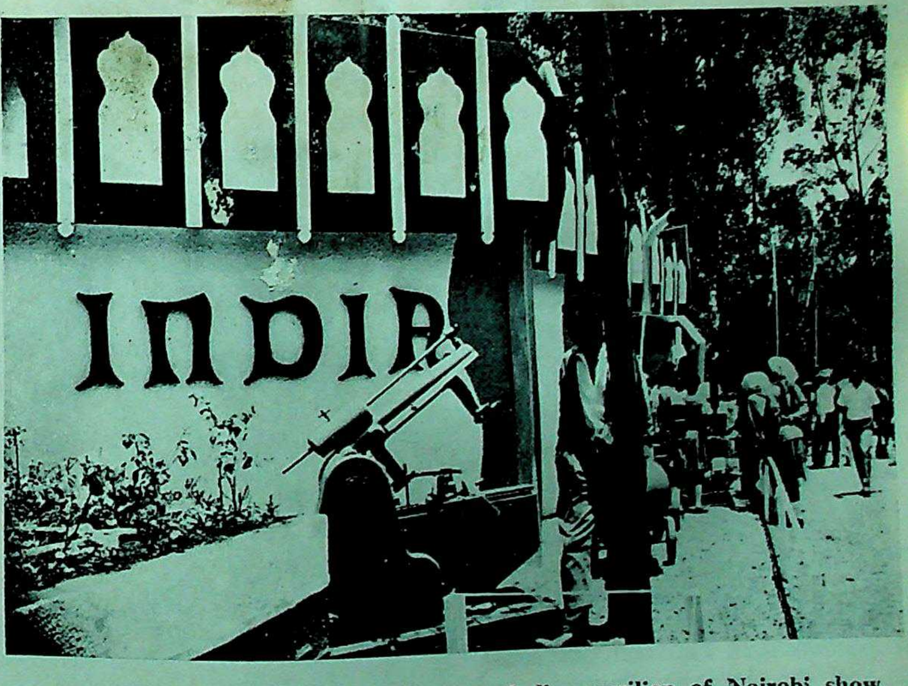
Solutions to Monetary Ref do not depend on Technical c siderations but willingness of dustrial countries, said Yash Rao Chavan, Indian Fin Minister during his speech to session of IBRD-IMF Meeti Nairobi. Industrial cou should accept simple propo that the problems facing de loping countries are as mu responsibility of Interna community as whole as those countered by developed cou International Monetary pro and their solutions cann divorced from larger proble securing rapid developme poorer countries of world problems of equitable distri of world output demand as u attention as those of securing stability and rapid growth. "Aspirations of developing countries can be fully met only if there is adequate political will and vision of part of the developed countries. Let's not take shelter behind technical complexities of monetary issue which have been thoroughly debated. These complexities can be resolved and smooth transition to new Monetary System ensured given individually and collectively the will to do so," he said. Commenting on fourth replinshmest of IDA in Mr McNamara's speech, Mr Chavan said "We fully share concern expressed by President of the Bank about the prospect of delay in this matter. Considering the discouraging trend of bilateral official assistance and the growing burden of indebtness of the developing countries the highest priority attaches to augumentation of leading capacity of IDA".

Mr Chavan expressed "Deep disappointment" at Committee of Twenty inability to submit an agreed reform outline to the Board of governors. The agreement on outstanding issues since the second meeting last march is virtually at standstill.

Although many months have passed and despite extensive technical discussions by Deputies there is no consensus on the basic features of adjustment in a reformed Monetary system. When concrete proposals backed by all developing countries and a majority of developed countries were submitted to Committee of Twenty progress was stalled because of opposition of a few powerful countries he declared. He went on to elaborate six point stand of India he earlier outlined to Committee of Twenty. He called on IMF to considerably improve role of decision making by developing countries if it was to main cooperative international organisation. Though number and size of third world countries in Fund membership had expanded substantially their weight in decision making was stagnat or perhaps declined significantly.

Pictured after his arrival at Nairobi Airport is Indian Finance Minister Mr Yashwant Rao Chavan to lead his country's delegation to World Bank/International Monetary Fund Meetings. On the left is Mr Shadrack Kimalel, Kenyan High Commissioner to India and on the right is Mr K. C. Nair, Indian High Commissioner to Kenya.

The Indian Machinery Exhibition



Outdoor display of Indian machinery at Indian pavilion of Nairobi show.

(Pic.: Kul Bhushan)

Any attempt at Monetary Reform must ensure that organisation builds its structure in interest of World Community instead of limited number of members however big or important these might be. Turning to World Bank reports he commented first Five Year of McNamara's Presidency had surpassed fiscal targets for lending and brought qualative changes of significant nature. India was satisfied with reorientation of Bank IDA lending. Focus on Agriculture urban development education population control and nutrition is well concieved and were glad to find in McNamara's address so much emphasis on rural development and equity in distribution of products of growth. "He's made eloquent appeal for removal of privilege and vested interests and for fair deal for small man and small farmer and a concerted effort to eradicate absolute and degrating poverty.

This accords with our own objectives policies and programmes in India", he said. He criticised inhibitions which sometimes govern present lending practices of bank especially in providing finance for basic industries oil refining or shipping comes in way of well balanced lending programmes. Stress on projects as distinct from nonproject lending has also been growing and there is need for maintaining adequate balance between two.

He supported McNamara's remarks that excessive pre-occupation with financial and economic rates of return can lead to neglect of wider objectives of development including achievement of higher employment and greater equity in distribution of economic resources. Bank should support development of local capacities rather than sustaining pattern of trade weighted in favour of capital supplying countries Considering mounting burden of external indebtness of many developing countries new concepts must be evolved for rescheduling these debts in orderly manner ensuring repayment does not disrupt viability of development plans.

Recent rends if flow of real resources to developing countries don't restore ones confidence in viability of philosophy of shared responsibilities between developed and developing countries in eradicating poverty disease and ignorance from our planet. Net transfer of resources from developed countries to remove tariff and non-tariff barriers restricting exports of developing countries have been feeble. Unvertainities caused by frequent Monetary upheavals have only added to balance of payments problems of developing countries. He summed up "International Economic cooperation if it is to be meaningful has to recognise and appreciate mood in developing countries political realities of development and crying need for social justice. I hope continued growth of Bank family will a catalytic agent in bringing m widespread recognisation of t essential aspects."

—Kul Bh

atri Celebrations

Thousands dance to 'Navratri' celebrations in Nairobi.

(Pic.: Carl Schilesinger Associa

Photo Exhibition

Kenya's Foreign Minister, Dr Njoroge Mungai, opens a photo exhibition b Harshad Patel when he launched the book 'Vanishing Herds' which has a foreword by Prince Philip and a collection of excellent photographs Harshad who is now in India clicking for another book.

(Photograph by: Y. Wa

SUDAN

Krishna Janam Ashtami

Krishna Janam Ashtami was celebrated at the residence of Shri Chhotalal Vithaldas. After the performance of religious ceremonies, a group of girls made a big circle and danced together which was liked by the audience very much. The function was attended by the members of the Indian community of Omdurman and Khartoum. H.E. Dr I. P. Singh, Ambassador of India, Shri N. K. Ghose, First Secretary and Shri Seth, President of the Indian community were among the guests.

Mahavir Jayanti

The Mahavir Jayanti was celebrated in the Jain Temple prepared at the residence of Shri Shantilal of Omdurman. Daily prayers were held in the morning and evening. Later, a special religious programme was presented with Ras and dances by the young boys and girls of the Indian community.

Community Lunch

A community lunch was arranged by the Indian Community, Omdurman at the premises of the Indian School on the 28th September, 1973. Most of the Indian Community together with their families were present. The lunch was enjoyed by the guests including H.E. Dr I. P. Singh, the Indian ambassador.

Bengali Nite

The Indian Society, Khartoum arranged programme for a Bengali night at the premises of the Indian Embassy. The programme was attended by the members of the Indian Society and their families. The guests were entertained with the Bengali meals and songs.

Navratri

The Indian Community, Omdurman celebrated Navratri Festival at the Indian School premises. Members of the Indian community and their families attended the religious function.

The Indian Ambassador in Discussions

H.E. Dr I. P. Singh talking to the President of Indian Club Shri Khajuria. In the extreme left is Mrs Singh.

The Indian Club Opened

H.E. I.P. Singh addressing the members of the Indian Club.

Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday

Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary was celebrated in the premises of the Indian Embassy on the 2nd October, 1973. Holy Scripts from Holy Quran, Shrimad Bhagwat Gita, Holy Bible, Zend Avasta and Guru Grunth Sahib were recited by Dr Siddique, Mrs Usha Bhate, Rev. Father John, Mrs Lavangia and Sardar Jagjit Singh respectively.

After a joint prayer by ladies of Indian community, Omdurman, H.E. Prof El Nazir Dafalla, Chairman, National Council for Research, Khartoum, addressed the audience. He spoke on the life and teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. Thereafter Dr I. P. Singh, Ambassador of India thanked H.E. Prof El Nazir Dafalla for accepting the invitation to participate in the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday and for giving a very beautiful discourse on the life and teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. The speech was followed by Bengali and Gujarati songs by the ladies of Khartoum and Omdurman. The function came to an end with the singing of "Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram" by Mrs Shekdar and party which was liked by all.

Dussera

On the evening of the 6th October, 1973 the Indian community collected at the India Club. The club was declared opened by H.E. Dr I. P. Singh, Ambassador of India by cutting the ribbon on the main gate of the entrance of the club. He was garlanded by the daughter of Mr B. N. Khajuria, President of the club.

Mr B. N. Khajuria thanked all the Indian community for their cooperation and giving donations for the club. He then announced that H.E. Dr I. P. Singh has been elected as the Patron of the club which was welcomed by everyone. Thereafter, the Ambassador thanked and congratulated the President and the members of the Committee and other Indian Community for the opening of the club which was awaited from long.

An appeal for the donation was made and within 20 minutes a sum of twelve hundred Sudanese Pounds was collected.

The Indian Club Lunch

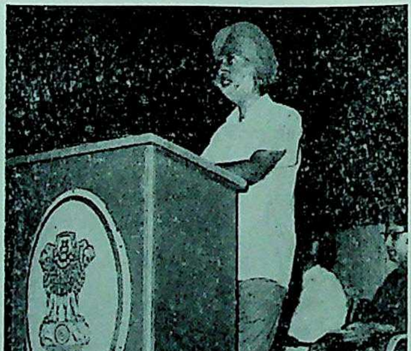
A Buffet party was held at the Indian Club in connection with the celebration of Indian New Year (Diwali) Shri N. K. Ghose, First Secretary, Embassy of India was Chief Guest. Nearly 600 Indians were present at the party and expressed their mutual best wishes for the New Year. The party lasted for three hours.

The Punjabi Nite

A Punjabi night was organized by the India Society, Khartoum in the club. The function was started with a speech by Mrs Devgun. Thereafter, the programme of folk dances and songs was staged by the group of Indian ladies. The group included Mrs Devgun, Mrs Tejpal, Mrs Malhotra, Mrs Khanna, Mrs Singh, Mrs Dhawan, Mrs Bal, Mrs Kohli and children etc. The programme was very much appreciated by all the members. Punjabi food was served at the end of the programme. H.E. Dr I. P. Singh, Shri N. K. Ghose attended the functions.

Guru Nanak's Birthday

A reception was held at the residence of Shri Jagjit Singh in the evening of the 10th November, 1973 in connection with the celebration of Guru Nanak Birth Anniversary. The guests were received by Mr & Mrs Singh and entertained with the sweet meats and other Indian preparations.



Sardar Jagjit Singh reading from Guru Granth Sahib at the gathering held at Indian Embassy Premises to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi Birthday on 2-10-1973.

GUYANA

Independence Day Celebrations

The Birthday Annivers Mahatma Gandhi was cel in Georgetown, (Guyana) 15th August, 1973. D performances by the artis students of the Indian C Centre in Kathak and dances, devotional songs, play etc, were given before elite of the town, including ters, officials and others. celebrations were inaugurat Guyana's Prime Minister, L. F. S. Burnham, who said dia's freedom struggle has a beacon-light to all those s gling for or consolidating freedom". He added, "Ind a great cultural heritage a must all profit by it." Dr G Singh, High Commission India, wrote a special fe article outlining the po economic and cultural ach ments of democratic and aligned India which were pu ed by all leading dailies Guyana on the 15th Au 1973.

Indian Cultural Centr

The Indian Cultural C was inaugurated here on Ja 26, 1973 and has now ove students on rolls. Its need greatly felt in this beautiful c try which has 55% populat Indian origin.

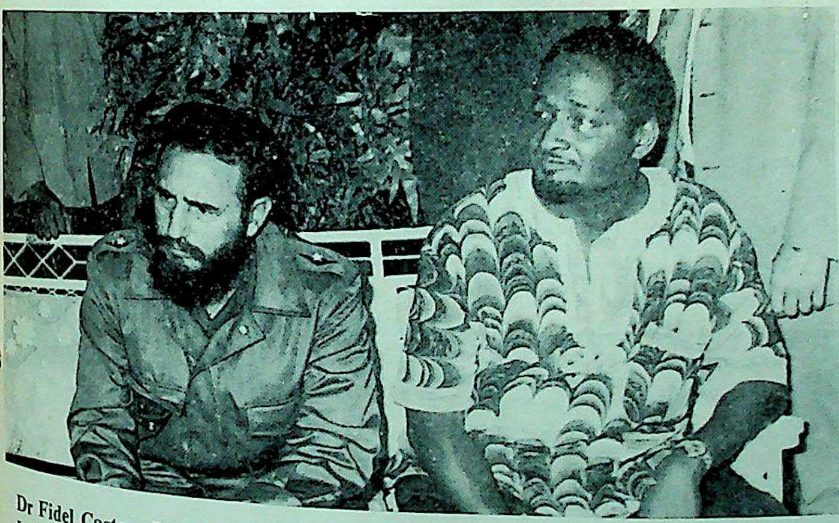
Tata Buses for Guyan

An agreement for the sal 60 Tata Buses valued at ov 67 lakhs was signed in Ge town, (Guyana) on June 1973 by the Governme Guyana with a representat Tata Exports Ltd, Bombay. is the first deal of its kind Indian Export House with Guyana Government and triple the present meagre

The Prime Minister came

H.E. Mr L. F. S. Burnham, Prime Minister of Guyana (Extreme left) and his wife being received by India's High Commissioner, Dr Gopal Singh and his wife (centre) on the eve of the independence day celebrations — Aug. 15, 1973. Mr Burnham inaugurated the celebrations.

The Revolutionary Hero



Dr Fidel Castro, Prime Minister of Cuba with Guyana's Prime Minister Hon. L. F. S. Burnham.

of Rs 3 million. The first lot of twenty five (25) Tata Buses are expected to reach Guyana by the end of December, 73.

Visit of Dr Castro

Cuba's Dr Fidel Castro recently visited Guyana on way to the Non-Alligned Summit in Algiers. It was indeed an honoured occasion for the Guyanese people who got their first glimpse of Dr Castro. Dr Castro indeed created stupendous impact, causing great awe and admiration, on the people who heard so much about this revolutionary hero.

Amongst top ranking officials and diplomats invited to meet Dr Castro at the residence of the Honourable Prime Minister, Forbes Burnham, was India's High Commissioner to Guyana, Dr Gopal Singh.

Asha Parekh was here

Sunday, September 30, was indeed a memorable day for Guyana and for lovers of the Indian culture. The occasion was a presentation of a play the "Image of India" staged at the Queen's College auditorium and produced by Shri Yogendra Desai. Taking the leading role was talented film actress and the prima ballerina of India, Asha Parekh, accompanied by versatile male-dancer, Gopi Krishna.

An Image of India

Asha Parekh in the centre with India's High Commissioner H.E. Dr Gopal Singh & Mrs Singh.

The capacity audience, including many foreign diplomats were treated to the "Image of India" but actually they felt as if they were revelling with the dancers in India itself. The dances, both classical and of rural India, captivated the audience immensely and, thus, they are surely looking forward to more "Images from India".

—Roopa Thani

OKINAWA

Okinawa Indian Community Honour Consul General

[illegible] Indian Community of Okinawa hosted a Cocktail Buffet party on Sunday Oct., 21, 1973 at the Okinawa International Club, in honour of the Indian Consul General H. R. Ahuja.

—Roy Daswani

Consul General Ahuja gave warm thanks to 100 Indians who participated in the reception.

SIERRA LEONE

Market for Indian Books

During the month of September, we had the pleasure of receiving Mr P. S. Jayasinghe, Chairman of M/s. Asia Publishing House, Bombay, Mr Jayasinghe arrived in Freetown on 23rd September on the invitation of Ministry of Education, Sierra Leone to participate in the Book Exhibition held at the YWCA. Mr Jayasinghe brought a wide selection of books published by his Company ranging from primary, secondary to university level.

To introduce Mr Jayasinghe, the President of the Indian Mercantile Association hosted a Cocktail party at his residence. All the Council members and Indian professors in Sierra Leone were invited—Officials of Ministry of education were present.

During discussions, it was felt that the Indian books can have good impact on the minds of the students in Sierra Leone, as both Sierra Leone and India are developing countries, the clima ditions are almost simil moreover many teachers sors come from Indi Jayasinghe and Mr Funna development officer) de have further discussions, a way is paved to bring dian books into schoo Universities of Sierra Le

Chellarams

On 29th Sept., we ha pleasure to welcome Mr chand Chellaram, son of Chellaram who, on his w Las Palmas, stopped in Fre for 3 days only. On Sund 30th Sept., Mr Ramchand Kirtan at Gurdwara and Indians took the opportu participate.

Mr Ramchand Chellaram

The following day, Mr H Vasnani of M/s Interna Traders (SL) Ltd, Gl Group, held Satsang, where Ramchand sang melo Hymns of Lord Krishna, Nanak, Gopal Krishna, Rama and many others. Satsang was rounded up Langar.

—Nanik R

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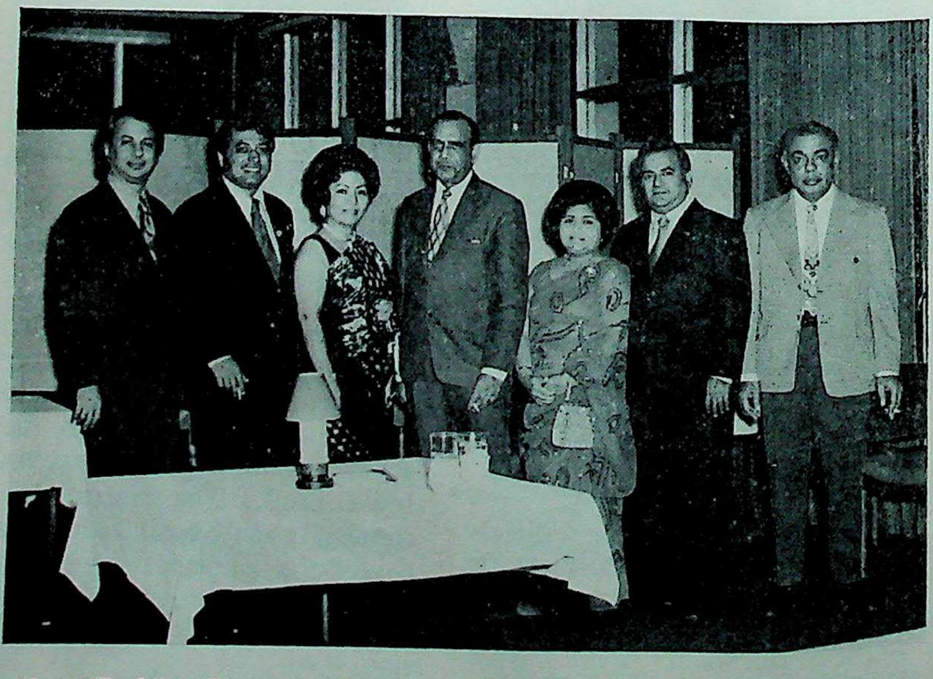
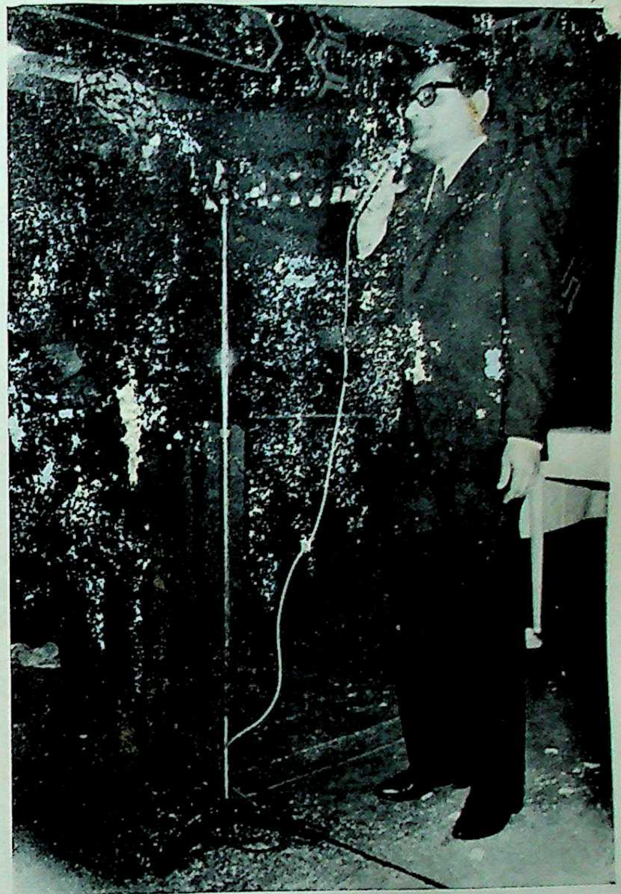


(L to R) Nick Daswani, Ricky Sarani, Mrs Sarani, Consul General H. R. Ahuja, Mrs Elson, Prem Elson and L. Nandwani.

SAIGON

Various Indian organisations held a get-together which used to be a regular feature in this country and has been revived. There was a cocktail dinner followed by speeches delivered by selected community leaders. —Shewakram Mahtani

Acting Consul General of India Mr B. K. Mitra delivering a speech on this occasion while President of Sikh Association is standing near by.



President of Bombay Silk Merchants Association and Chairman of Indian Community in S. Viet Nam Mr S. G. Mahtani delivering speech on the occasion.

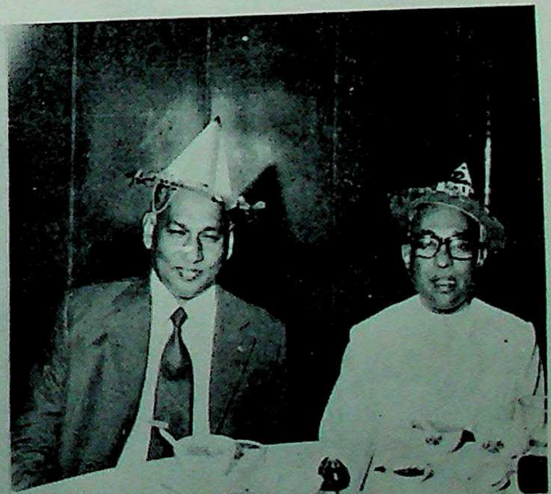


Photo left shows: (L to R) Vice President of Muslim Community, President of Chelliar Community, Acting Consul General of India Mr B. K. Mitra, President of B.S.M.A. and Chairman of Indian community Mr S. G. Mahtani, President of Sikh Association, M. C. Member of B.E.M.A. Mr G. L. Daswani and Treasurer of Muslim Community. Photo right show: (L to R) President of Muslim Association, President of Chelliar Association.

PANAMA

A Hindu Wedding

The first ever Hindu wedding took place at Hotel Washington on July 6, 1973 when Miss Indra Parwani d/o Mr & Mrs T. N. Parwani of Messrs Parwani International Inc. Colon, R.P. joined in holy wedlock with Mr Veer Kumar Mirpuri. A magnificiant party was hosted to celebrate the occasion. All important personalities from Indian and "Panamenian communities attended and blessed the couple.

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Independence Day Celebrations

National Flag hoisting ceremony was held to mark the 26th anniversary of Indian Independence on August 15, 1973 at the residence of President Mr M. T. Mayani of local Indian Merchants Association, Colon. R.P., and later in the evening, a buffet dinner was given by the Embassy of India in Panama City. All dignatories attended the festival.

Annual election of the Indian Merchants Association of Colon, R.P. was held, all the previous office bearer were re-elected unanimously for the year 1973-74.

Mr M. T. Mayani of M/s Casa Bee's — President, Mr N. B. Kishinani of M/s I. Vishindas — Vice President, Mr M. K. Tolani, of M/s Bazar Gandhi — Secretary, Mr W. G. Punjabi of M/s Washu's — Treasurer.

Grandson blessed to Mr & Mrs K. L. Tolani of M/s Bazar Gandhi of Colon. R.P., son to Mr & Mrs M. K. Tolani.

The Party was arranged by the Indian Merchants Association to mark the celebration of DEEPAVALI at the residence of M/s C. Hemraj.

The gala party was arranged by Mr & Mrs B. T. Mayani of Casa Bee's Colon. R.P. at Hotel Washington-Hyatt, in honour of their nephew Mr C. R. Mayani, and his wife, who recently married in India. All important member of Indian Community attended the party.

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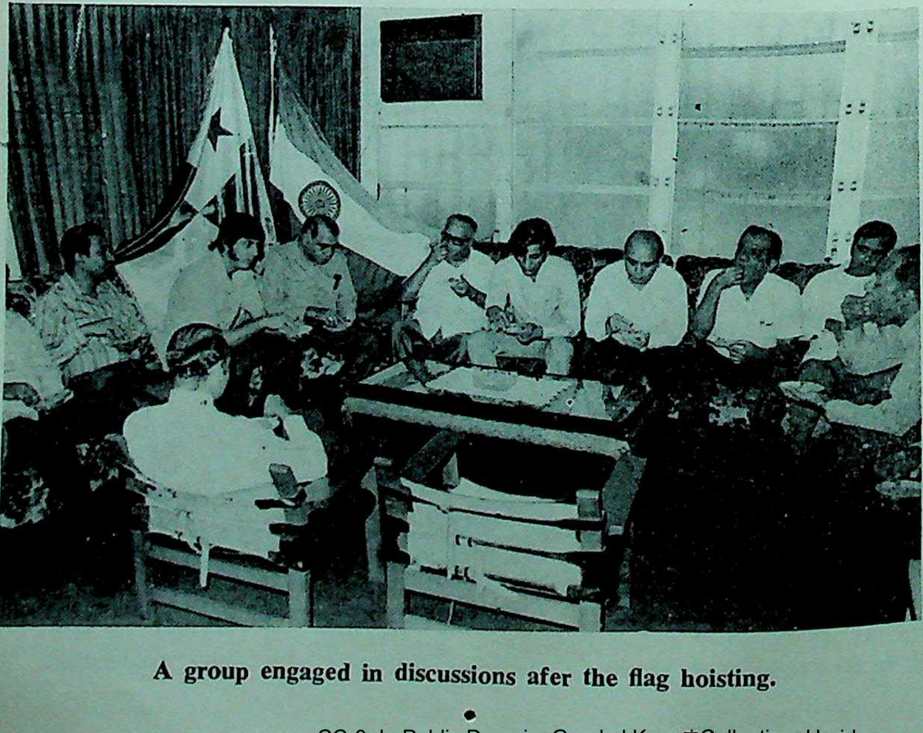
Indian Independance Day



A group engaged in discussions afer the flag hoisting.

TURKEY

Gandhi Anniversar Meeting

A meeting to hono
memory of Mahatma Ga
his 104th birth anniversa
held in Ankara on Octo
under the Chairmanship
Indian Ambassador, Mr
Narayanan. Addressing
gathering and members
Indo-Turkish Cultural A
tion, Professor Bedrettin T
President, Turkish N
Commision for UNESCO,
ed Turkey's tribute to G
four years ago when the Co
sion published a book "M
ma", in Turkish, and the T
Government invited the
grapher of Gandhi, the late
G. D. Tendulkan to addres
conference, and exhibitions
Gandhi were held at the hal
National Library of Ankara
the Fine Arts Academy, Ista
Prof Tuncel described Gand
"a great man for all time,"
said; "when Turkey was in
of assistance from abroad
the first world war, Gandhi
by her."

—Somnath

Magistrate caught 'while taking bribe'

A first class magistrate
charge of transport) of Bh
district, Mr Umakant Sa
was allegedly caught red-han
ed yesterday while taking
bribe from a bus operator
Arrah, 60 km from he
according to official sources.

Mr Sahay was arrested
vigilance officers of Patna wh
laid a trap. The police
covered Rs 275 in marked no
from Mr Sahay's house.

The vigilance departm
acted on a tip from the dist
Congress president, Mr G
Mishra, the sources said.

HONG KONG

Our New Commissioner

The Indian community of Hongkong welcomes with great relief the new Indian Commissioner, Mr Ananthanarayanan Madhavan and his charming wife, Mrs Girija Madhavan.

Mr Madhavan, a seasoned diplomat, succeeds Mr L. N. Rangarajan, who was transferred to New Delhi last month before his full three-year term was completed.

Mr Ananthanarayanan Madhavan

The soft-spoken, but decisive minded Mr Madhavan and his wife have, it is learned, a number of ideas and programmes through which they hope to be linked closely with the activities of the overseas Indian community in Hongkong and their wellbeing and development.. According to local reports, Mr Madhavan has a three-plank programme of top priorities and which he is sincerely interested in working upon through close links with the community here. 'The INDIAN', which is devoted primarily to the interests and activities of the overseas Indian community, welcomes this new-found attitude with our new Commissioner and we offer our full co-operation and assistance in furthering the causes which he dearly cherishes.

Mr Madhavan, who joined the Indian Foreign Service as a career diplomat back in 1956, comes of a respectable family in Tamil Nadu. His father, Mr Justice Ananthanarayanan Iyer, retired only recently as the Chief Justice of the South Indian State. He was one of the oldest ICS officers trained in the well-known British Civil Service traditions. Both Mr Madhavan and his wife are scholars and they both do a lot of writing and reading besides being occupied with fruitful and useful public activities.

It is of interest to know that Mr Madhavan served in Peking from 1968 to 1970, and then moved on to London as the First Secretary at the Indian High Commission there. He had the unique distinction of working with one of India's well-known diplomats, Mr Apa Pant, who is now India's envoy at Rome.

We welcome remarks made by Mr Madhavan in the local press that it would be his endeavour to "establish good relations and understanding with the Hongkong Government and the Chinese people here." It is also very refreshing to be assured that he and his Commission staff would go all the way to establish an "identity of interests and objectives" between the Indian community and the Indian Government and people.

It is to be hoped the regrettable lapses of the past would be remedied and both the Indian Community in Hongkong and the Indian Commission would pull their socks together in the common objective of projecting the correct and good image of the community in this cosmopolitan metropolis and also in that process that of India and her leaders.

Rightly tackled and approached, Indian trade can be fostered and accelerated through the cooperation of the Indian community here whose expertise in many fields of the industrial complexes are applauded widely by the authorities of the Hongkong Government.

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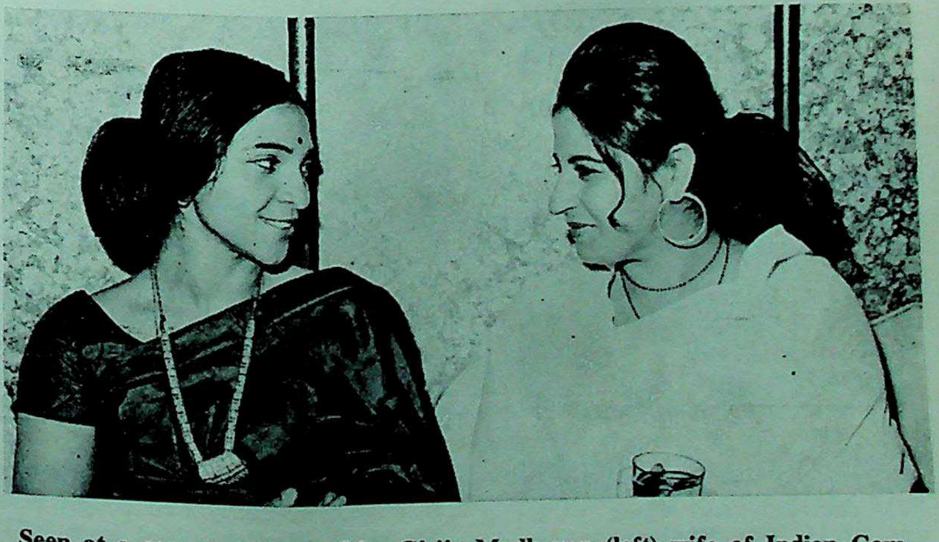
Today Hongkong has assumed a different role in international trade and politics. Indians have also a part to play and there is no better place than Hongkong from where the image, the centre of gravity of India and the Indian community overseas can radiate so powerfully and energetically as from Hongkong.

In pursuing this goal, 'the Indian' offers once again its full support and it is our hope Mr Madhavan will find our community and their activities an interesting arena to be associated with and be helpful to develop gerater momentum and dynamism through such association.

Friendly Chat



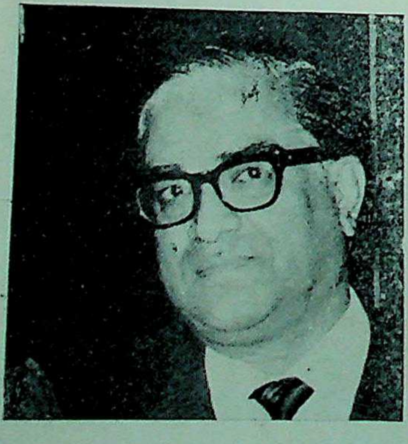
Seen at a recent party are Mrs Girija Madhavan (left) wife of Indian Commissioner in Hongkong and Mrs. Lita Sital.

Mr Hassaram R. Khemaney

Mr Hassaram Roopchand Khemaney—Chairman of Radha Kishoo & Company and R. Hassaram Group of Companies passed away peacefully on 30th December 1973 in Hong Kong.

Born in Hyderabad, Sind in year 1908, he came to Far East some 50 years ago. Before World War II, he lived in Shanghai and Canton. In year 1947 he moved to Hongkong and established his firm under the name of Radha Kishoo & Co. Mr Hassaram Khemaney then opened his branch under the name of R. Hassaram in Aden. With his guidance and hard work Radha Kishoo & Co., became world wide organisation with branches at Osaka, Yokohama, Las Palmas, Lagos and Accra.

Religious and charatiable by nature, Mr Hassaram Khemaney was always associated with projects of charity and community welfare. Even at time of his death, he was doing his morning meditation and Yoga Asnas. May his soul rest in peace.



Dr Kishinchand M. Budhrani—passed away on 16th December, 1973 due to heart attack at the age of 51. Dr Budhrani is survived by his wife and two children.

Over 270 people attended the Pfizer Corporation's annual Christmas at the Excelsior recently (December 15). The evening commenced cocktails followed by a dinner during which there was a presentation long service award. The evening's festivities also included a raffle, a show, music and dancing. Seen above from L to R are Mrs Anrie Mr M. I. Kurian, Mr Robert S. Packard, Mr R. A. Behrenhausen.

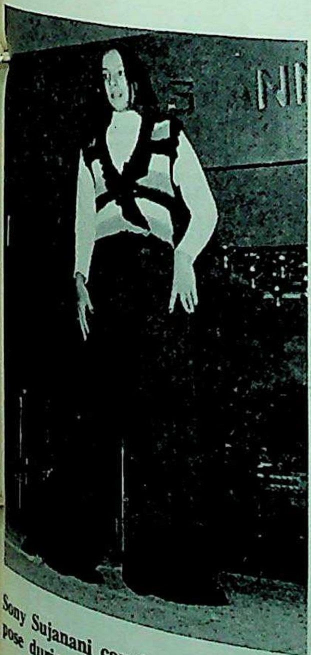
Mr Raj Bhagwandas, Director of Cathline's Nohasalle, held a dinner which he called Canadasian Night in the Banquet Suite of the Excelsior 9th December, 1973. Picture shows from L to R: Mr Raj Bhagwandas, Mohan T. Bharwaney, Mr Eddy Van.

"Mr & Mrs Hari N. Harilela hosted a cocktail party at Hongkong in honour of newly wed couple Rani and Ashok Motwani. Seen above Mr H. N. Harilela (third from left) proposing a toast to Rani and Motwani, (seen on his left.)

Young Petal's Anniversary Ball

The 'Young Petals' Popular group of our teenagers from Kowloon held their second Anniversary ball recently. It was a fun-filled event with Fashion Shows and Dramas put together by the charming young girls, at the Hyatt Hotel in Kowloon.

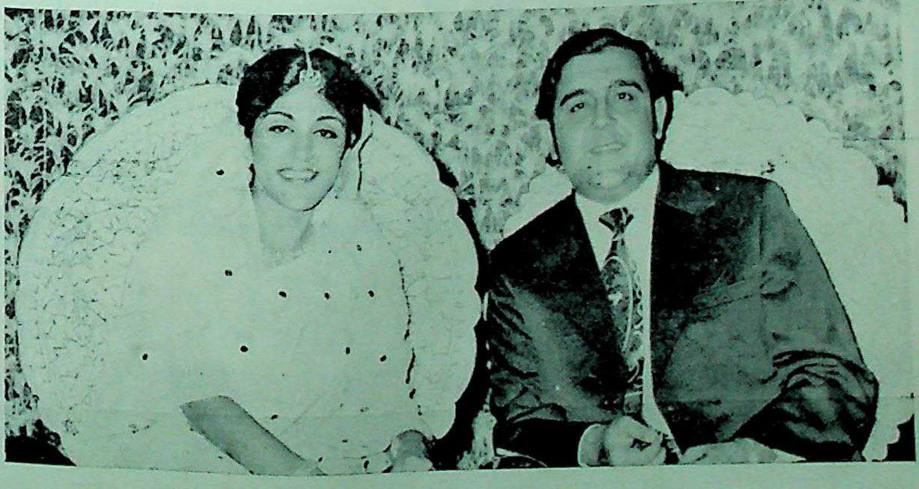
Jenny Kima, gorgeous as ever in a gharara-kurta during the Fashion Show.



Sony Sujanani caught in a stunning pose during the show.

The 'Young Petals' from L to R Nimu Motwani, Hardevi Shadadpury, Bala Mohinani, Sabrina Sujanani, Anita Sujanani, Jenny Kima, Maryln R. and Sony Sujanani.

Anita and Sabrina Sujanani posing with Mr & Mrs J. Mulchand during the raffle draw.



Miss Mohini, daughter of Mr & Mrs R. T. Khubchandani was recently married with Arjan, son of late Mr Ramchand Daswani & Mrs Drupati Ramchand Daswani at Tilibai's Mandir. A reception held to celebrate the occasion at the Ballroom of Tajmahal Hotel, Bombay was well attended.

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Arvind Bhandari

Brezhnev in New Delhi

In chronicling the recent goings-on in New Delhi, it is difficult to deny the pride of place to the descent on the national capital of Comrade Brezhnev, who came, who saw and who strove to conquer—by smiling. The Russian leader smiled, again smiled and kept on smiling. Quipped the wife of a Russian diplomat at Palam: "Comrade Brezhnev has broken the world record for smiling".

The grin of the Russian Bear may be a far cry from the angelic smile of Mona Lisa, but it was perfectly explainable: the Comrade had come to spread camaraderie, and he spread plenty of it. Brezhnev may be a tough customer but he can also coo, when the occasion demands, as gently as a sucking dove. Today the relations between India and Russia are truly close.

It would, however, be wrong to assume that Mrs Indira Gandhi has sold India down the Volga. The Russians were quite keen to elicit some kind of a positive response, if not actually extract a concession, from New Delhi on the question of the Brezhnev doctrine of collective security for Asia. In his most important speech—the one delivered to the joint session of the two houses of Parliament—Brezhnev dwelt at length on his brain child. But the Indian Prime Minister, hard-headed negotrator that she is, refused to budge an inch, subjecting the burly Russian to the same experience which once provoked Kissinger twentieth century's

Eternal Friendship

They signed a 15 year economic pact. Russia is the major trading partner of India.

Making a Point

Brezhnev broke the world record in smiling, it was said. He smiled, smiled and smiled . . . .

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arlet Pimpernel to complain at Mrs Gandhi is cold-blooded.

What do, then, the Soviet's e to ga... by befriending India? Their anxiety for Indian endship has to be seen in the ntext of the mutual distrust be- een Moscow and Peking. In der to curb China's influence, ssia wants to befriend the er major country in south a, which is India. To quote e Times, London: "The Sino- viet split has given to India a -political importance in Mos- w."

The agreement between India Soviet Union on the development of economic and trade co- ration for 15 years covers a field.

The projection in the joint de- ration that the trade exchanges ween the two countries will e by as much as 150 to 200 cent by 1980 is impressive most welcome.

The Soviet Union is a vast and wing market and its absorp- capacity for a wide variety of ian exports is undoubtedly h. The problems in the fur- r expansion in trade between two countries in recent years, ever, lie in the range and ality of goods and services that Soviet Union can sell to India. is reflected in the growing that the Soviet Union has lately running with India in ent trade.

The agreement, however, ap- ars to miss the essence of the blem in the field of economic peration and trade between two countries at the present ge of development of their pective economies. The nges that have occurred in the ian economic landscape, to g which about the Soviet n itself made a valuable con- tion during the second and plans, require the establish- of a new basis of comple- arity between the two econo- . The agreement does not to have seriously approach- s complex problem.

They March

Com. Brezhnev and Mrs Gandhi just before the former's departure from New Delhi.

There is the same old concept of fresh credits to finance the designing and construction of new projects and supply of complete engineering plants as the principal form of Soviet participation in the Indian industrial development effort. Serious doubts and reservations will be entertained by many Indian technical groups and equipment manufacturers, including those in the public sector, which may see the continuation of old forms of economic co-operation arrangements as supplanting their role. There is no reason to think that after the building of five new steel plants and the experience thus gained, it is not yet envisaged that the further expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro can be entirely Indian enterprises.

The real need of India is to find competitive sources of supply of modern process know-how in certain fields, technologically sophisticated components for old and new industrial capacities and scarce industrial raw materials, including non-ferrous metals and crude oil. The 15-year agreement does not indicate that the Soviet Union has offered to be a stable and dependable [illegible]ier of such requirements on [illegible]ificant scale and on a long-term basis.

The supply of two million tonnes of wheat and the promise to provide some quantities of petroleum products are very valuable in meeting some of the immediate Indian requirements of a pressing nature on [illegible] emergency basis. They h[illegible] been widely appreciated [illegible] extremely friendly gestures. [illegible] such supplies do not fall i[illegible] system of economic cooperation extending over a 15-year period such as the present agreement envisages.

It is to be hoped that as a result of the work of the joint study group of the two countries a more fruitful and meaningful understanding of the problems of expanding trade and economic co-operation will evolve than are outlined in the documents signed at the end of Brezhnev's visit.

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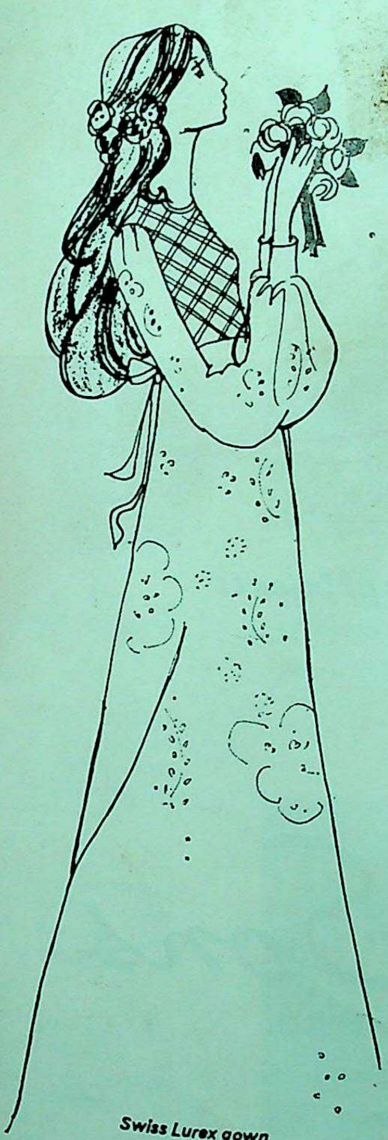

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Gleanings from Indian press

During 1973, India imported 4537 thousand bales of cotton valued Rs 657 million from Sudan, Egypt, the USSR and elsewhere.

●

Direct dialing service between Bombay and the U.S.A. has started. The Bombay operator can now directly dial any number in any American city.

●

A new hotel at Delhi has opened for business. It is a government run hotel, called Qutab, comprises of all apartments, 18 double beds and 12 single beds with golf, bowling alley and other facilities.

●

India and Sri Lanka are starting a new joint shipping service.

●

Over half a million stamps were on display at the Hall of Nations in New Delhi last month. The INDIPEX—73 was a unique exhibition.

●

Indian Tourist Department has issued a very useful, complete and well brought out "Tourist Guide to Delhi".

●

Mr Hari Krishan Singh, Indian High Commisioner in Uganda has appointed concurrently as ambassador to Burundi.

●

During July-September 1973, 73 foreign collaborations were signed by Indian parties. The foreign collaborators included Hong Kong, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Holland, the U.K., the U.S.A., the USSR, West Germany etc.

Sportsmen Honoured

At a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on November 20, 1973, the President, Shri V. V. Giri, presented the Arjuna Awards-1972 to 14 outstanding sportsmen.

Photo shows the award winners and others at the function.

Pretty Golf Champion

Anjani Desai, the amateur golf champion receiving the Arjuna Award from the President. Anjani's husband is Vice Chairman of Larsen & Toubro, Bombay.

●

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Nehru Jayanti and Children's Day

Filmshows, cultural programmes and an exhibition of children's paintings marked on the 84th birth anniversary celebrations of Jawaharlal Nehru in Bombay on November 14th.

Nearly 6,000 boys and girls in the 9-16 age group, from 300 schools in Greater Bombay, participated in an on-the-spot painting competition organised by the Bombay Art and Craft Teachers Association. During the 17 years of the Nehru birth anniversary celebrations in Bombay, nearly 60,000 children have so far participated in this competition.

Prince Aga Khan's Visit

Prince Karim Aga Khan and his lovely consort Begum Salim Aga Khan paid a brief visit to Bombay, Poona and Delhi. He was enthusiastically welcomed by his countless followers everywhere. Aga Khan has donated a piece of land near Kasturba Samadhi to the Gandhi Memorial Committee for their use. His Highness had, a few years ago, donated the well known Aga Khan Palace, the place which accomodates the samadhis of Kasturba and Mahadev Desai.

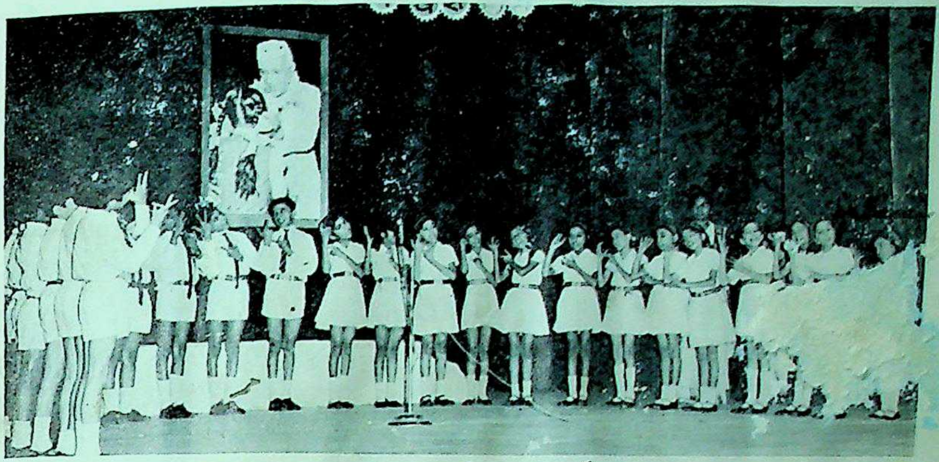
They also met the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan in Delhi.

First Indian Sea Foods Trade

Over 60 exporting concerns took part in the Indian Sea Foods Trade Fair, the first ever of this kind to be held at the Crystal Room of the Taj in early November. The Trade Fair was organised by the Marine Products Exports Development Authority in cooperation with the Taj Intercontinental to provide a forum for exporters, importers and shoppers and others connected with that industry.

Indian Marine products have registered a remarkable export

Children's Day



A close up of a programme on Children's Day at Bombay. The celebrations took place all over India.

The Aga Khans

Prince Karim Aga Khan and Begum Aga Khan with President V. V. Giri at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

Marine Food Fair

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Mr A. C. George, Union Deputy Minister Commerce, at one of the stalls in the Trade Fair.

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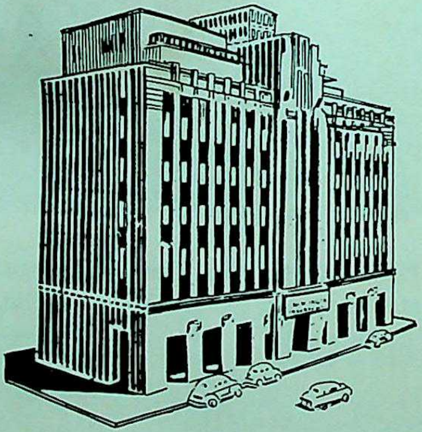

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spurt from Rs 44 m in 1954 to Rs 355 in 1970, Rs 391 m in 1971 and Rs 592 m in 1973. It was expected that the exports of Sea Foods would reach an all time high of Rs 650 m this year and to touch the figure of Rs 1200 m by 1980.

Wild Life Exhibition

Internationally known wild-life photographer, Harshad Patel of Nairobi has been a dedicated lover of nature since his boyhood in Kenya and began photographing the subject he had studied over ten years ago.

The young artist had displayed his works at the exhibition room of the Taj Mahal Inter-Continental on November 16. There were some 100 rare photographs of wild life in East Africa — its flora and fauna.

Harshad Patel

World's leading photographer on Wild Life.

Mr Fatehsinghrao Gaekwad, President, World Wild Life Fund, Indian National Appeal, inaugurated the show. Mr Patel who has published his book "Vanishing Herds" has depicted the magic of the area, capturing its wild life. Harshad is a keen naturalist, and has covered over 100,000 miles on safaris throughout Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. The lion and the leopard, the rhino and the mighty elephants and the birds — our feathered friends, are a great fascination to this worldfamous photo "artist." He originally belongs to Baroda.

Harshad is in love with the subject and takes a rare delight when he speaks about wild life, writes about it and shows it to his countless admirers. His pictures are a piece of art.

Indo-Danish Trade Pact

Mr H. Jespersen, of the Government of Denmark (left) and Shri J. R. Hiremath, Government of India, signing an agreement in New Delhi on November 15, 1973. Under the agreement Denmark will provide project and technical assistance of 250 million Danish Kr. (about Rs 34 crores) over the period of fifth plan 1974-79.

The Swiss in Delhi

The members of the Swiss Parliamentary Delegation, led by H.E. Mr Marius Lampert, President of the Swiss Senate, called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi in New Delhi.

Photo shows Shrimati Gandhi receiving Mr Lampert.

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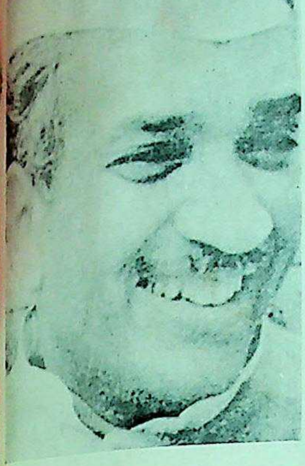


H. N. Bahuguna
New Chief Minister of U.P.

Miss Rendezvous 1973

Mrs Pratibha Phatak was crowned Miss Rendezvous 1973 by Mrs Batra, wife of Major General R. K. Batra, at the Army fete arranged in Bombay early November, by 'Army Officers Wives' Association. Besides folk dances, fashion show and scintillating cabarets, other attractions were a gift den, supper bar with delicious dishes and a raffle. The well known pop group "October Cherries" provided the music. The annual fete was organised to collect funds for army personnel and their families.

Lal Kurti Sadhus

Recently, in the Ferozepore district of the Punjab, the Lal Kurti Sadhus (red shirts) attacked a village killing 17 persons and injuring several dozens more. The police rushed to the scene of violence. The Sadhus fought back. In the encounter their Guru, Baghel Singh was killed along with many others.

Lal Kurti Sadhus are sikhs. Their first Guru Baghel Singh claimed to be an incarnation of God and established his own sect in a Math (ashram), where over 150 full timers stayed. The Sadhus went around propegating their cult. Many persons in the village that were attacked, it is said, did not become [illegible] followers which enraged the Guru and he ordered the attack.

On the day of attack the Guru was worshipped by [illegible] followers and was crowned by them. The crown was made of 24 carat gold and weighed 1½ kilogram. After that the party set out on its mission to kill.

Many Sadhus have been arrested and [illegible] m[illegible] are absconding. [illegible] Punjab Government has moved in the matter but panic still prevails in the area.

The Petrol Issue

The petrol prices have been hiked throughout India by about Rs 1.17 per litre, from Rs 1.62 to 1.79 per litre. Consequently, taxis put up their rates and lost a good deal of customers. Now, taxis can be found soliciting business on road sides of all major towns. Private car owners drive less and many have switched to car pools. Traffic on roads has diminished a great deal. But public transport system has been overload still more.

Mrs Indira Gandhi set the hall rolling when she came to office in a horse driven vehicle, escorted of course by two cars. Opposition party leaders dubbed it as a stunt. As a counter move, the Jan Sangh's Vajpai came to the Parliament on a bullock cart. The Jan Sangh President Lal Advani and the Communist leader Basu rode on bicycles to come to the Parliament. Newspapers published their photographs and ultimately Mrs Gandhi announced that her switching to a horse cart was not meant as a petrol economy measure. She said, "I was only taking fresh air on my way to work."

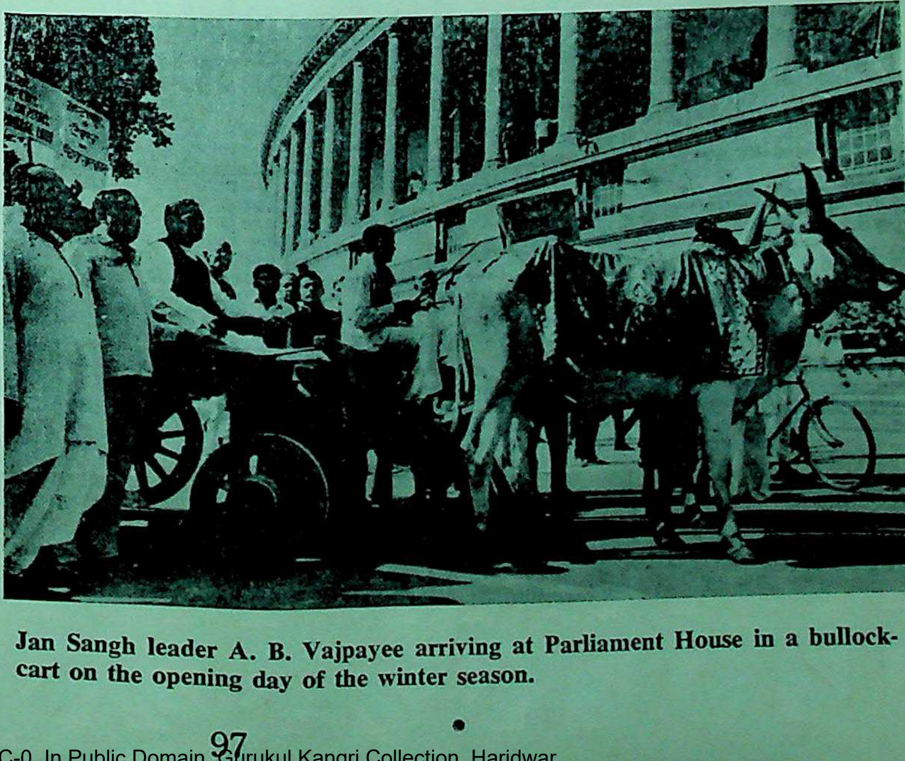
The Union Cabinet has been shuffled. Mr Kamlapathi [illegible]pathi, the congress boss of [illegible].P. has become Minister of [illegible]hipping & Transport [illegible] [illegible]aran Singh has shift[illegible] [illegible]ourism & Aviation to [illegible] & Family Planning. Mr [illegible] Rao was dropped [illegible] M[illegible] Gujral got independent [illegible] of Information & Broad[illegible] More changes are expec[illegible]

⁂

Mr H. [illegible] Bahuguna [illegible] moved from Delhi to Luck[illegible] to become the Chief M[illegible] of the newly formed Congre[illegible] Government in U.P.

●

Mrs Indira Gandhi & Mr K. Kamraj one time the most powerful man in India have made an electoral alliance to fight elections in Pondicherry.



Jan Sangh leader A. B. Vajpayee arriving at Parliament House in a bullock-cart on the opening day of the winter season.

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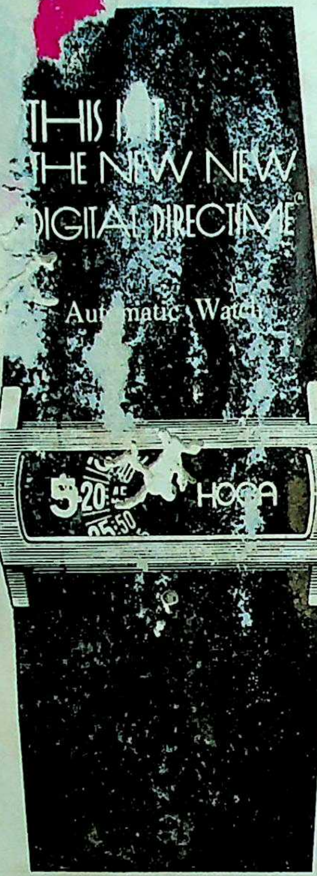

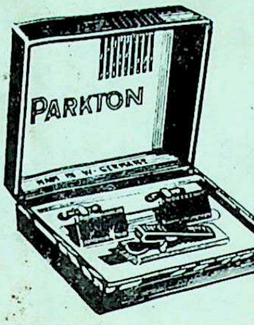

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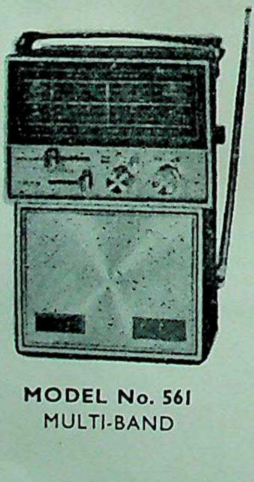

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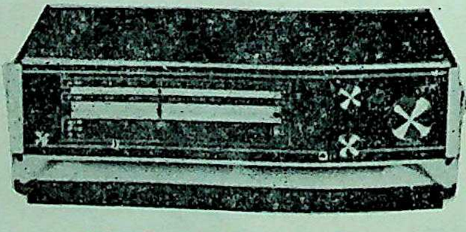

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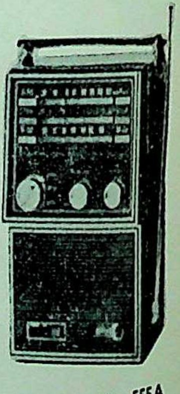

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Published by:
THE INDIAN P. O. BOX 13636, HONG KONG

Printed by:
SEE TOI PRINTING PRESS, PHONE: 5-722139

THE INDIAN—HEAD OFFICE: 79, Wyndham Street, P.O. Box 13636, Hongkong. INDIA OFFICE: 4/D-2 Akashdeep Bldg., French Bridge, Opera House, Bombay-7.

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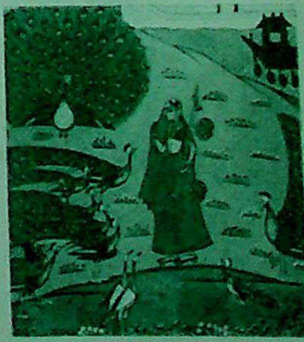

KAKUBHA RAGINI
Deccan, 18th century;
6" × 9-1/2"; Art Collection,
Kankroli, Rajasthan.
A lone woman, pining for
her absent husband,
stands among excited
peacocks outside the palace.
Almost invariably this
raga is shown as a solitary
lady mourning her lord's
absence amid peacocks,
either in a forest or in the
grounds of her mansion.

(*Story see page* 13-24)

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Samaiki

G. Sital

[illegible]an [illegible] Abroad

In 19[illegible] I [illegible] Madrid, Spain, after a long tiring flight [illegible] my hotel for a vegetarian dinner was pla[illegible] ith tomato ketchup. The polite and helpf[illegible] just would not understand what I said.

Since then Ind[illegible]taurants have sprung up in most parts of the wo[illegible] So, last month when on my way back from Las Palmas to London, I stopped at Madrid after 13 years — I got a pleasant surprise, There was an Indian Restaurant serving homely food and I feasted on delicious *desi* food.

It occured to me that many thousand Indian businessmen as well a[illegible]her tourists today who roam around the world may e[illegible]ience a similar situation— some because they are vegetarians, others for variety.

Indian food is rich in variety, taste, and looks. Thousands of dishes are prepared every day. The Indian canlinary art is highly developed and the great chefs mastered their arts over centuries. The Chinese food enjoys world popularity because of their enterprise in carrying their food and restaurants to most cities of the world. The Indian food has great potentialities abroad, but nothing much has been done to popularise it. Gaylords, Taj, Ashoka etc. are abroad but they cater to an exclusive clientele and offer no great variety in food.

My work carries me around the globe frequently and I have to halt at very many places, big cities, medium size towns and small villages. In most places I came across dozens of people who look around for a change — from European and Chinese food.

Indian businessmen wishing to set themselves abroad on small capital, for quick return and social esteem should think of opening small, clean decent restaurants, with Indian decor and music, where different varities of Indian dishes can be served at reasonable price that an Indian salesman, an American couple going around on tight budget, and people of average means can afford to eat 2 or 3 times a week at least.

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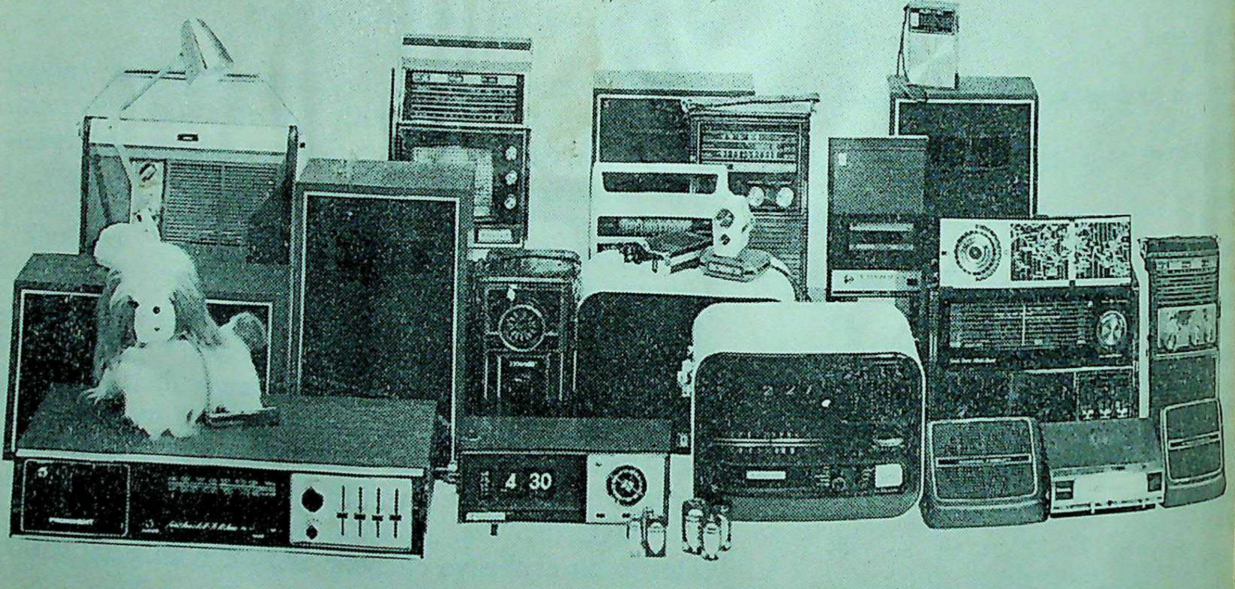

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

INDIA — IRAN

Beginning of a New Era

Mrs Indira Gandhis' four days ate visit to Iran has been a great ccess—by whatever count you dge it. That the relations be-een the two countries were far om happy is no secret. This has een set right to a large extent. The Shah was gracious and magnanimous in his tributes to Mrs Gandhi and made it quite clear that both countries should work together for peace, particularly in and around the Indian Ocean. Mrs Gandhi rose to the occasion equally and dwelt at length on thousands of years of close co-operation between India and Iran. In a lighter mood, she said that in her family during grandfather's days, they spoke Persian and jokingly remarked that she even married a Parsi—a migrant from Iran. Decks are clear for political amity and junior levels of both governments, we hope, work out concrete details of programmes.

The Shah appreciated Indo — Pak—Bangladesh agreement, he has been unhappy over India's role in the 1971 conflict. The Shah would like to see a sort of common market of countries around the Indian Ocean. Mrs Gandhi suggested that a beginning be made through bilateral trade agreements.

The visit was very well covered on the T.V. both in Iran & India. Indians enjoyed looking at magnificent durbar halls, grand chandeliers, gold plate, handsome turn out of courtiers, pretty ladies and of course Empress Farrah. Mrs Indira Gandhi's formal appearances—grace, beauty and dignity—thrill her countrymen always.

Brothers Shake Hands

Once upon a time, not very long ago, the Indian sub-continent extended from Afghanistan to Burma and from Gilgit to Ceylon. There were many countries, many cultures, different religions, separate political systems but they all had a subtle and undefinable bond of brotherhood and fraternity. Sometimes they fought as brothers do, but soon they shook hands and were brothers again.

Something of that sort is beginning to happen. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh have reached agreement on most of the immidiate issues and if the spirit of goodwill continues, remaining issues will be solved. Sri Lanka has friendly relations with all her neighbours. Burma's Ne-Win was in Delhi recently. An agenda planned for four days was finished in half the time and he had time to play off. He charmed everyone with his smile and politeness. Let us hope for a greater exchange of goods and ideas between Burma and her neighbours.

Afghanistan has friendly relations with all countries, except perhaps Pakistan. But time is a great leader and goodwill should prevail.

The region is fortunate in having outstanding leaders heading governments of respective countries. Daud, Bhutto. Indira Gandhi, Bandarnaike, Mujib, Ne Win are visionary personalities and totally devoted to the welfare of their people and world peace.

Let us hope the future unfolds happy days. Brothers have shaken hands — warmly. And when we shake hands, we put our hearts in them.

Riding a Tiger

Back home, Mrs Gandhi is riding a tiger of strickes, violence, disruption and the like. First, students in Gujrat made an agitation that led to the fall of the State government and dismissal of legislature. Now the exercise is being repeated in Bihar. On May 8, the biggest ever trade union strike began all over India when 150,000 railwaymen struck work. In some states, roadways have also joined in. Several departments of the government have also declared to go on strike soon.

That the common man in India is suffering great hardships — no one denies. Food shortages, unprecedented price inflation and energy crisis are amongst the major problems. The workers need more, but by giving them more, you push up prices further. Besides adding Rs.50 million a year additional burden on the government.

The government is now willing to negotiate but wants all strikes to be withdrawn first. To this Unions do not agree. The government attitude, at present, appears to be that it will negotiate on its own terms and it will not allow life and economy of the country to be disrupted.

In Bombay, no local & suburban trains are running. But thousands of lorries, trucks, tempos, rikshaws and anything that moves have been pressed into service. It is a new type of Bombay that one sees these days.

A strike so large and so wide spread cannot continue for long and there would be some solution shortly.

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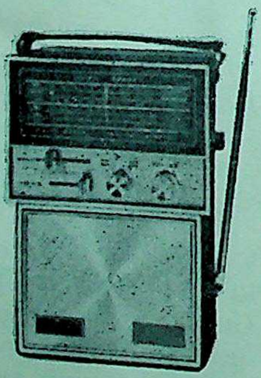

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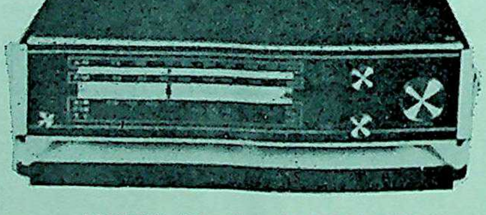

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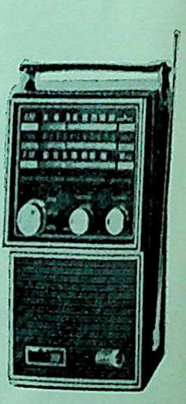

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Bombay Beat

Priyalata Pal

The Editor Felicitated

Gulshan Ewing, the editor of leading weekly, Star & Style, and Eve's Weekly, was felicitated at a function arranged by 51 cultural organizations at Taj Mahal Hotel. Dr. Rafiq Zakaria, health minister of Maharashtra, presided over the function and Mr. H. H. Ismail thanked the gathering. Mr Khuswant Singh, internationally known journalist and writer, paid a tribute to this talented and charming lady who had completed 25 years in not so easy a profession of Journalism. Mr C. S. Pandit, editor of Free Press Journal, also spoke on the occasion.

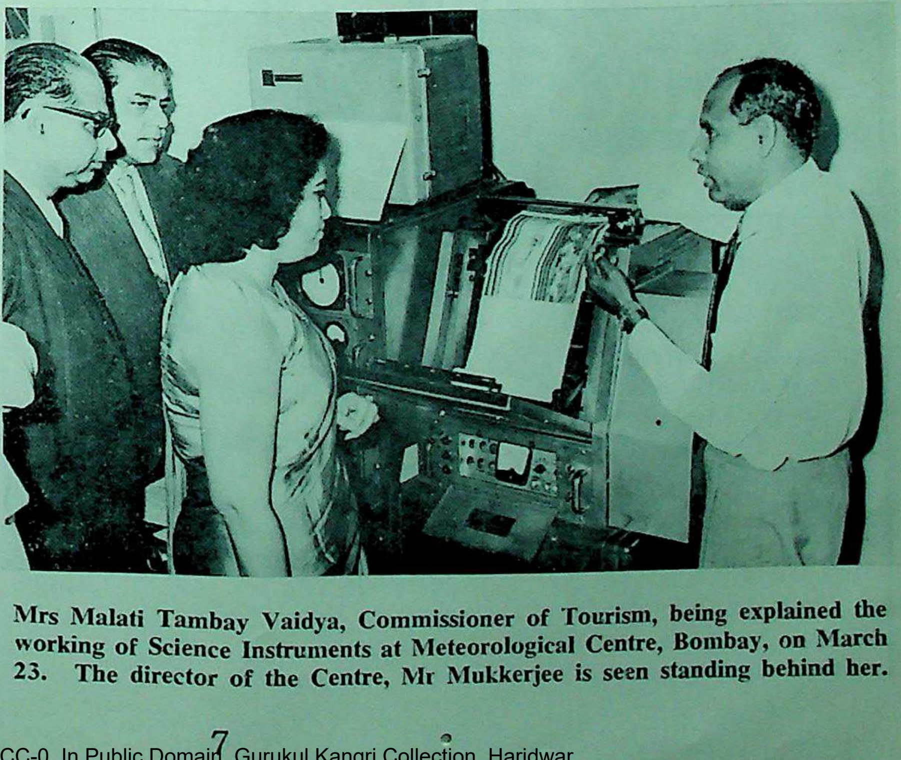
Both the weeklies form a part of the drawing room in every house in Bombay, thanks to the devotion and sustained efforts on the part of the lady editor.

Group Show of Young Artists

The newly opened art gallery 'Maya' at the Oberoi Sheraton was the venue of a group show of young artists, who exhibited some of their rare works of art.

The canvas paintings of Anand Mohan Naik showed his skill at handling of soft and melting colours to suit the various landscapes, whereas the work of Prabhakar Barwe experimenting with matchsticks and composing different designs, showed his ability as a textile designer. Gauram Veghela, with his miniature paintings, brought realism to his work with the changing colour scheme.

At the function held by Bombay Hospitality Committee and Committee of Hosts to felicitate Mrs Gulshan Ewing, Editor, "Eve's Weekly" and "Star & Style" on completion of 25 years in journalism are (from right to left) Mr Sobhi El-Ejel, Dean of the Consular Corps, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria, Minister for Public Health and Urban Development, Mrs Gulshan Ewing and Mr H.H. Ismail, President of the Committee.



Mrs Malati Tambay Vaidya, Commissioner of Tourism, being explained the working of Science Instruments at Meteorological Centre, Bombay, on March 23. The director of the Centre, Mr Mukkerjee is seen standing behind her.

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ombay Municipal Flower Show

The first annual vegetable fruit d flower show organised by the mbay municipal corporation s held at the Pherozeshah hta Gardens on Malabar Hill, ntly.

Most of t[illegible] exhibited

The Editor Felicitated

[illegible] s.

e viewers [illegible] eft ck them.

In the vegetable and fruit section, one saw abnormal sizes of some of the common vegetables which we rarely see in the markets.

There were also a few carnations and crysanthemums from Israel, some rose collections from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and some 50 varieties of bougainvillaes.

Nritya Niketan's Dances

Nritya Niketan's evening of dances was presented at the National College Hall, Bandra, when Bharata Natyam and Kathakali attracted a discerning audience. The masterly enactment of 'Shivthandavam' by Guru Kutty Krishnan, ably supported by his wife Saraswati, was the highlight of the evening. Earlier Saraswati had rendered an enjoyable dance in Bharata Natyam. The students of the Institute also gave a fitting account of themselves.

USSR Film Team in Bombay

A 14-member team of Mosfilm, USSR was on a three-week visit to Bombay to do their shooting for the film, "IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY". The team which was led by Mr N. Gubenke, film director, covered the sculptural splendour of Elephanta Caves, the beaches, the highway and the beauty sports of Bombay. The team included a director of photography Mr E. Karavajev, the actors Victor Sotsky, Victor Philippov, Paul Butkeriter.

Some of the ready-made garments displayed at the Handicrafts and Handloom exhibition of Bihar.

The team was entertained to a dinner by Film Producer, F.C. Mehra and introduced to a cross-section of film fraternity. They took delight in covering sky-scrapers and the newly built Oberoi-Sheraton Hotel. Earlier portion of the film was shot in Moscow. The story is of two lovers, one of whom reaches Bombay by air and is reminded of his love in Moscow.

Chetti—Chand at C.C.I.

Chetti—Chand was observed with usual enthusiasm at a colourful function at C.C.I. Thousands of Sindhis—men, women and children turned up to pay homage to Lal Sai and observed folk dances and listened to folk music which were interesting items in the programme. Professor Ram Punjwani presided over the function. The homage to the Saint was paid at different parts of the city.

Fashion Show of Fabrics

A fashion show of fabrics which was both educational and fascinating was presented by the well known Swan Mills, at the Taj Intercontinental recently.

The glamorous fashion parade exhibited the wide range of fashion fabrics being currently manufactured by the mill. Displaying the eye-catching fabrics, were the most sought after models from the world of fashion and fantasy.

Among those who were present were the Sheriff Mr Kantikumar Podar and several industrialists, businessmen and film stars.

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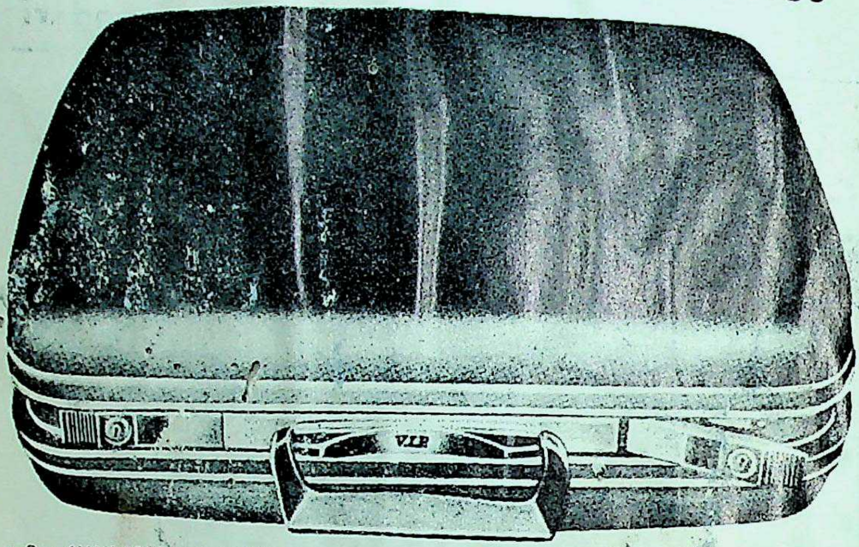

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New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhandari

Laurels for Indian Artists

While the politicians are making a mess of the country, India's artists are winning laurels abroad, doing not a little to repair and restore the Indian image throughout the world.

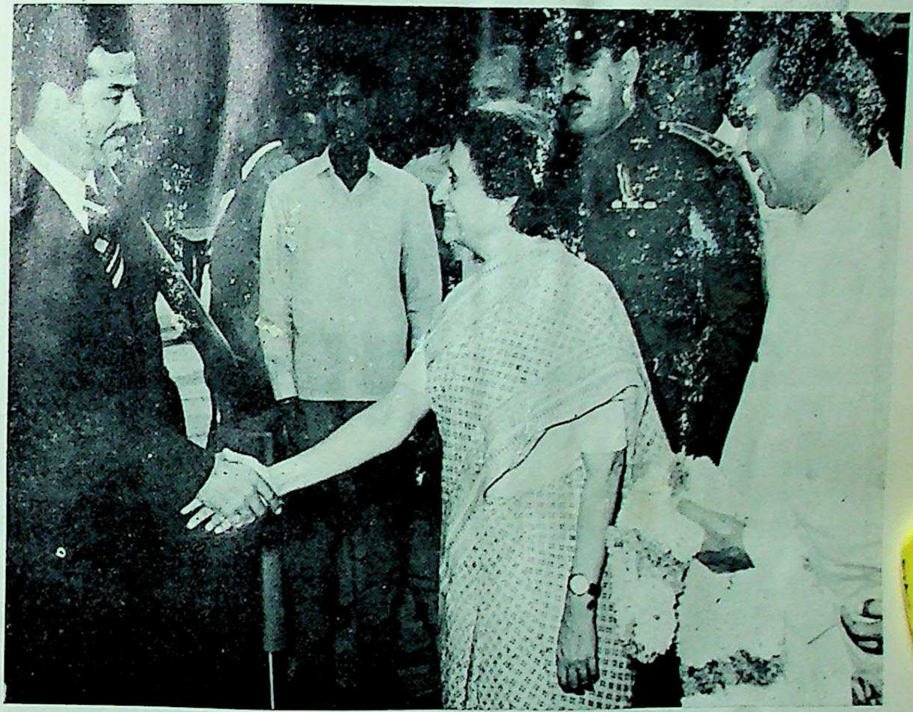
M. S. Subbulakshmi, that queen of Carnatic music, has drawn standing applause for her mellifluous performances at the United Nations. In recognition of her signal service to India's image abroad, M. S. Subbulakshmi was recently awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Delhi.

The drive to get the Nehru Memorial Project off the ground began with Lata Mangeshkar's cnocerts. But if the project is to achieve its target of one million pounds, it will need British cooperation and assistance. This would entail the creation of a board of trustees, predominantly but not exclusively British.

Coming back to the country, Gujarat is both an ominous and a meaningful sign. Ominous, because shows that Indians, known since time immemorial as a patient people with a tremendous capacity to absorb prolonged suffering, are beginning to lose their patience. Meaningful, because Gujarat shows that even an elected government can be thrown out by the will of the people if it loses its moral authority through its wrongdoings.

The intelligentsia believes that the main reason for the unsatisfactory situation in the country is the flabbiness, corruption and purposelessness of the Congress Party, which has the responsibility to rule. The complacency has resulted from enjoyment of an unchallenged position since independence. The challenge has been lacking because the other organs of parliamentary democracy — opposition parties, judiciary (whose wings were recently clipped) and the press—are weak. Therefore, the system of checks and balances, within which the executive must operate, is not functioning properly.

Vice-President of Iraq arrives in New Delhi



His Excellency Mr. Saddham Hussein, Vice-President of the Republic of Iraq, arrived in New Delhi on March 25, 1974.

On arrival at the Delhi airport Mr Hussein was warmly received by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Central Ministers, Shri Kedar Nath Sahni, Mayor of Delhi, Diplomats and others.

Photo shows Shrimati Gandhi receiving Mr Hussein.

Many among the intelligentsia feel that in the present situation the President can fill the vacuum; he can provide the counterweight to the Council of Ministers. If the President were to have real powers to dismiss the government and the exercise of such powers were to become a real threat, the present rulers would be shaken out of their characterless sloth. If the President goes wrong, he can always be impeached. All this, of course, presumes careful election of a good President. A time-server like Mr Giri will not do.

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RAGAMALA
India's visible music

What force would compel painters who worked centuries and thousands of miles apart to follow certain pictorial formulas to express the same musical mode? Thist is just one aspect explored by a young American scholar in his book on a fascinating offshoot of Indian miniature painting.

by

Klaus Ebeling

I stumbled into Ragamala painting by chance. I was applying for a grant to attend an Indian Arts Seminar at Colgate University in New York State, and was asked to select a research topic for the duration of that summer seminar. Having previously studied Indian sculpture, I decided to utilize this meeting of prestigious Indian and American musicians, dancers, musicologists, and art historians to investigate any possible relationship between painting and music. In the letter in which I was awarded the grant, the director of the seminar, Musicology Professor William Skelton, wished me good luck for my "study of Ragamala," for he was aware of the scarcity of available information on this subject.

"Ragamala?" I said to my wife, "I mentioned no Ragamala in my grant proposal." I looked up the term and found out that one type of Indian miniature painting deals with the visualization of musical modes, or ragas. At the seminar a few weeks later I was to see the first original examples of this multimedia art form, unique among the arts of the world. My tutor was right: information was very sketchy and hard to locate. Only one book had ever been written on the subject: *Ragas and Raginis* by O. C. Gangoly, published in Calcutta in 1935 in an edition of 36 copies. It was to take me a whole year of searching before I was able to lay my hands on one of these copies—and to photograph it page by page for my research.

At that time I was creating huge abstract wood sculptures, carved with the help of a motorized chain saw, and large abstract murals, painted with three-inch and eight-inch wide rollers instead of brushes. Thus, these delicate little Ragamala paintings with their minute detail, often applied with single-hair brushes, and their abundance of real and symbolic subject matter, intrigued me not only as examples of Indian art but as an approach to art as diametrically opposed to my own work as can be imagined.

After that summer at Colgate I continued gathering all available information from original and secondary sources. It became clear to me that there was great uniformity and much repetition in spite of enormous spans of time and space. Through four centuries, the 16th through the 19th, and thousands of miles, from the Deccan to the Punjab, from Marwar to Bengal, painters had produced very similar pictures over and over again of any one of some 40 ragas. (To distinguish between musical and painting terms, I am writing raga when referring to music, and Raga, when referring to painting.) In addition to these, several hundred other Ragas were illustrated occasionally, although quite rarely, in one or the other Ragamala album.

Thus, Kakubha Ragini appeared almost always as a lone lady standing among several peacocks in a forest. Vibhasa Ragini repeatedly showed an amorous couple on a couch; the man always held the flower-studded bow of the lover god Kamadeva and aimed a lotus arrow either at his reclining beloved, as though to instill her with renewed passion at the end of a night of love-making, or he aimed it at a crowing rooster on a garden wall, as if that would stop the morning from coming. Devagandhar Ragini pictured an ascetic, and Sri Raga, a lord listening to an old musican who was accompanied by a man with a horse head.

Although the style of each painting varied and thus allowed its identification as to its approximate time and region of origin, its content was remarkably similar to all miniatures with the same musical name. What force, I asked myself, would compel painters, who worked centuries and thousands of miles apart, to follow certain pictorial formulas as the visual expression of a musical creation? Did Indian music really conjure up the same image in everybody's mind? Was there an old text, a handbook of the trade, that prescribed these images in a similar way as the *Natya Shaśtra,* an ancient treatise on dance and drama, had affected those arts?

The author is a scholar of Indian art, and is professor of art history at Jefferson Community College in Watertown, New York, The article is based on his new book titled 'Ragmala Painting' published by Basilius Presse' Basel Switzerland in 1973. India's Scholar Minister Dr. Karan Singh has written a foreword to this book.

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My research continued for several years until I had the good fortune to be awarded a research fellowship from the American Institute of Indian Studies to spend nine months in India hunting Ragamala paintings. My goal was to visit every known collection in England, Germany, and India, as I had previously done in the Eastern United States, and to photograph all their Ragamala paintings for my research notes. I wanted to assess the frequency of this art form, its variations, and the tradition of its pictorial formulas, its iconographies, by process of mass analysis. I wanted to gather in one hand all the surviving information about this now-extinct art form in order to find the answers to the above questions.

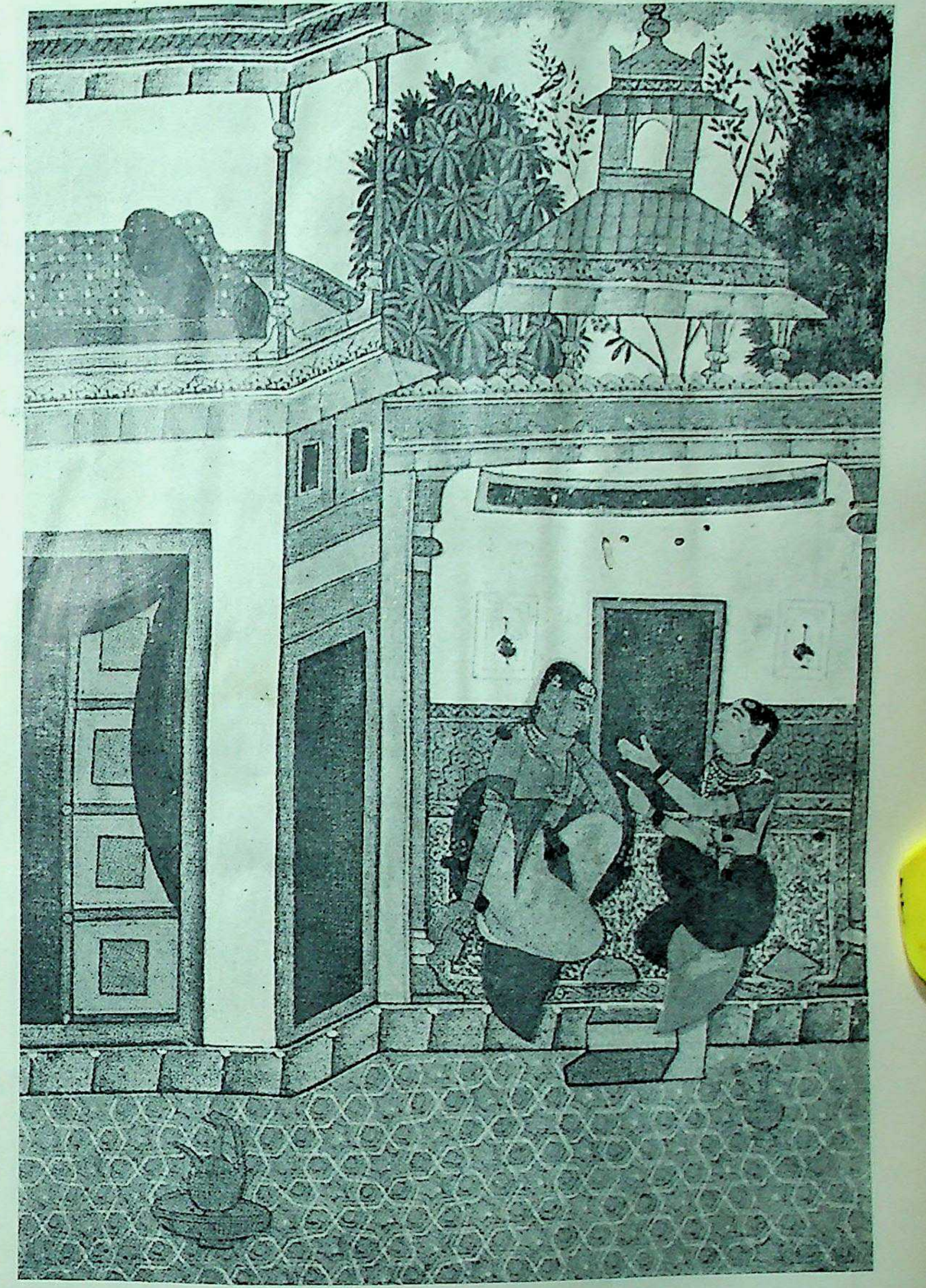
Well, I did not find the handbook of the trade, a "Ragamala Shastra," nor did I find in all my contacts with Indian music, musicans, and listeners any evidence that their minds conjured up the same images when they heard the same raga.

But I did find India. I visited many museums and private collections whose scholarly curators or owners received and aided me with cordial hospitality. My wife, my four daughters, and I made many, many friends. We visited the great sites of India's cultural history; we encountered the land, the climate, the tastes, sound, and scents of India. We celebrated Diwali, Independence Day, and Holi. We bargained in the crowded and colourful bazars, we thrived on delicious Indian food. We watched dances and listened about the whole way of life in India through actual experience —a precious, unforgettable experience.

And I did find some 4,000 Ragamala paintings and some two dozen Ragamala poems. I analyzed and compared, weeded out obvious errors, exchange, hybrids, and unique additions to the traditional compositions. I found the existence of four iconographic traditions. I found the immediate roots of Ragamala painting in poetry rather than in music. I found the original consumers to be mainly women. These discoveries and much other evidence were then compacted in my book *Ragamala Painting*, a comprehensive description of this subject.

What at first had appeared to my Western eyes as rather abstract decorative patterns and picture compositions, I found to be very realistic and keenly observed characteristics of Rajasthani, Deccani, and Central Indian landscape, architecture, fauna, flora, and human costumes. What at first had looked like a rather two-dimensional treatment of natural and archi-

PATMANJARI RAGINI



Provincial Mughal style, ca. 1610; 5-1/2" x 7-1/2"; Collection, Dr W. B. Manley, Guildford, England. The painting above is part of the earliest near-complete album inscribed with a Sanskrit text (not shown here) by a poet named Kasyapa. His poem is the source of most pictorial formulas for Ragamala paintings in the Rajasthani Tradition.

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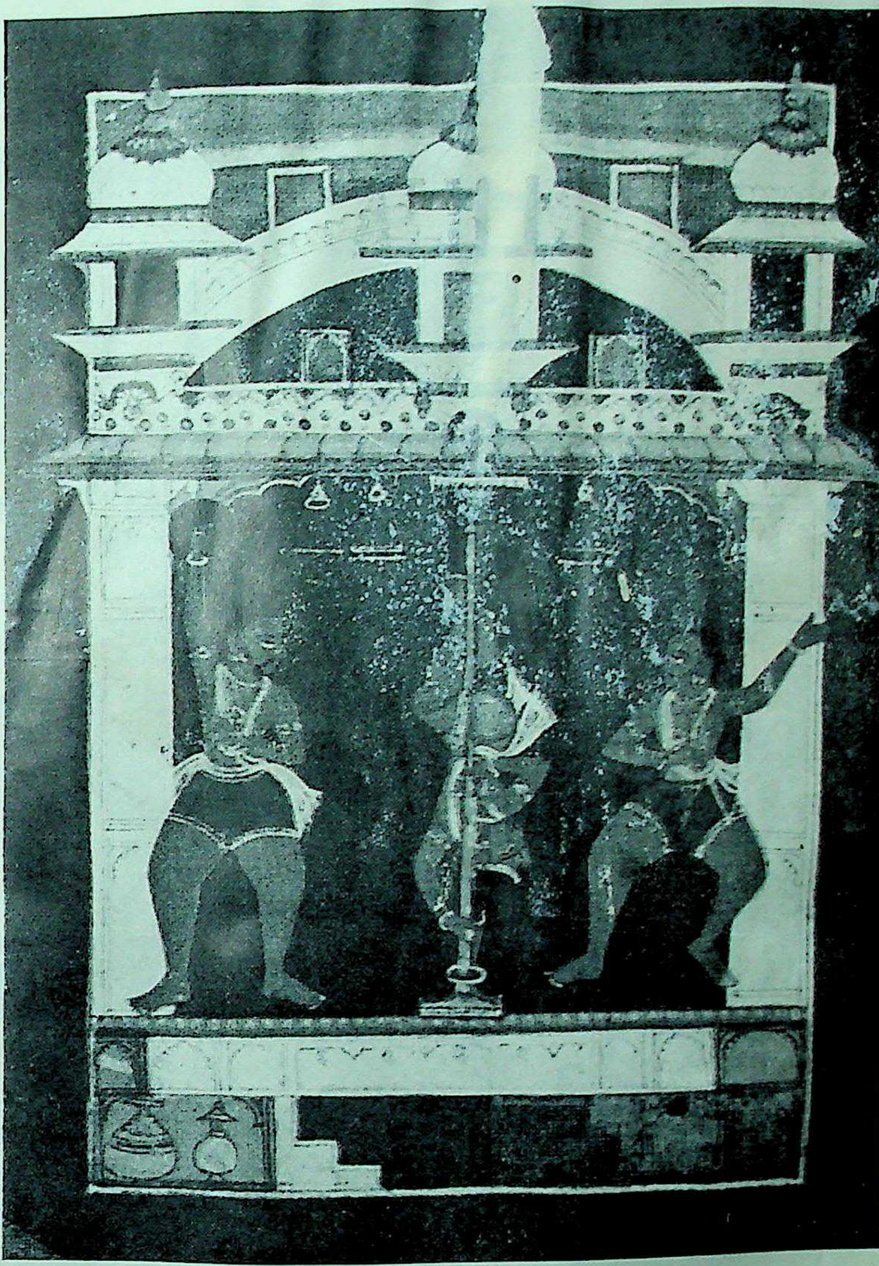
ctural space that lacked the illusion of central perspective as used in Europe and America for the last 500 years, was in reality a highly efficient utilization of the tiny painting surface. The important elements, the human figures, received the main share of the painter's attention, while their surroundings were simply stated with a few characteristic details. The corner of a palace and a terrace, a bed, three steps, a pond, a few trees, plants and animals set the stage for the scene quite clearly and eloquently.

How then did a painter of Ragamalas work? As a rule, I believe, Ragamalas were only a side line for an all-purpose court or bazar painter. He would be familiar with local contemporary style of painting and might also produce on demand portraits, scenes of hunts, battles, and darbars, as well as illustrations to Hindu epics, such as the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata,* and themes of the Krishnalila and the Nayikabheda.

He would consult existing Ragamala albums or single pages for names and picture formulas. He would up-date this information by exchanging occasionally a raga name, the music of which was not practiced locally, for the name of a more popular piece of music, and by expressing the picture formula in the style popular at the time.

As he was proficient neither in reading nor calligraphy, he would ask a scribe or court poet to inscribe the paintings with old Ragamala verses, which in the process of repeated copying from album to album got quite badly corrupted. In a few cases the court poet would even rephrase the old verses, or embellish them with additional sentences, or translate them into the vernacular Hindi, Rajasthani, or Braj-Bhasa, the dialect of the Agra region, or even transcribe them into Urdu or Persian to make its content accessible to the patron who had commissioned the album.

DESAKH RAGINI



Sirohi, ca. 1690; 4"x6"; Collection, J.P. Goenka, Calcutta. This acrobatic iconography differs from all others in the Rajasthani Tradition, which mostly display the rasa of Sringara, the erotic mood. As in the ascetic Raginis, painters seem undecided whether to show the main character as male or female.

The painter would furthermore take into consideration the religious preferences and the aristocratic status of his patron and pattern the heroes of his paintings after Shiva, Krishna, or Vishnu, and put them into a setting reminiscent of the local palace situation. In short, with diplomatic flattery he would make it easy for the patron to identify with the pictured lords and their partly divine, partly aristocratic trimmings without actually having portrayed the patron as an individual.

The painter's knowledge of music was as spotty as that of poetry. After all, he was no musician, but at best a good listener and observer of concerts. He would frequently include musicians among the secondary figures of his painting or place a veena or tanpura in the hands of the

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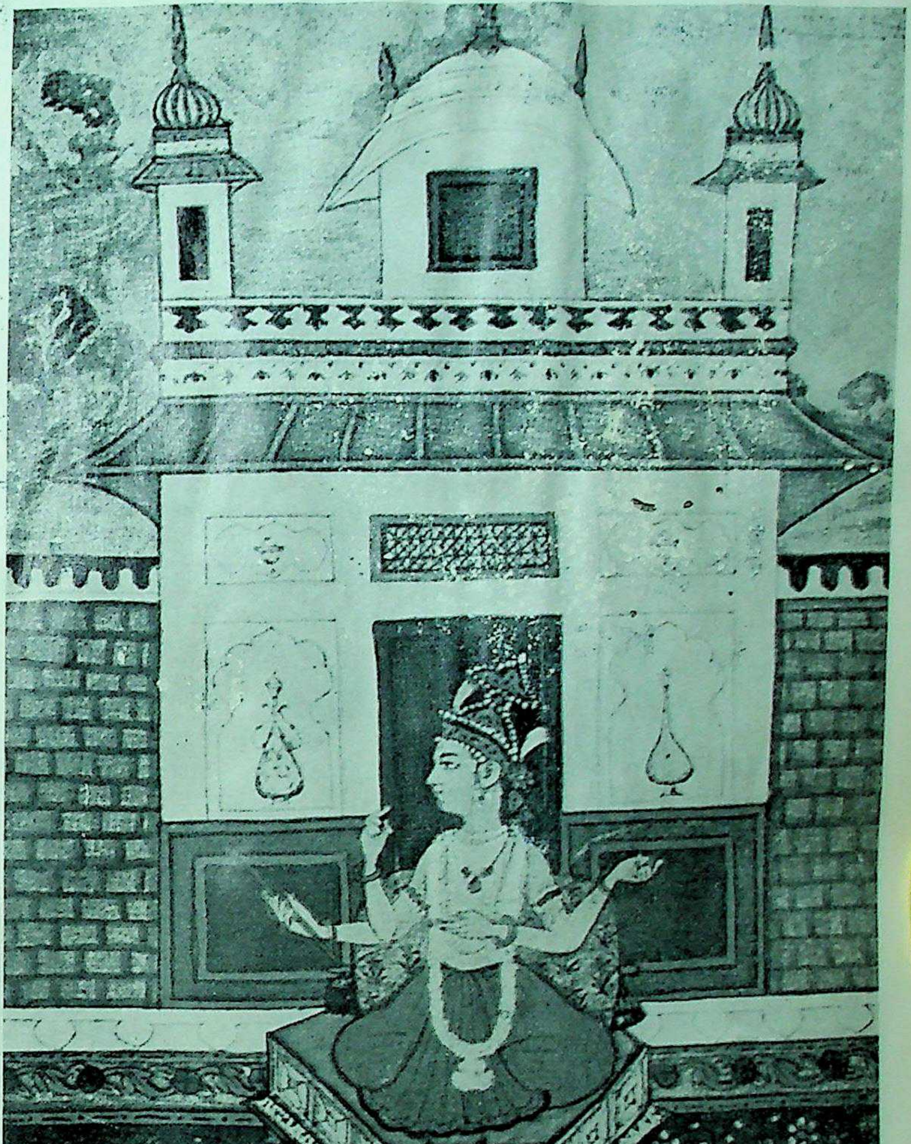
principal character, the Raga or Ragini. If the demand justified it he would make a set of charbas, outline drawings with color notations on tracing paper, which could be used many times to speed up the production. The outlines often were perforated to permit pouncing, the rubbing of colored powder through the pin holes onto the final painting surface. Details of floral, costumes, and architecture would in each production be arranged differently to give a certain degree of originality and uniqueness. Another easy way to accomplish an appearance of uniqueness was to use the charba face down. That created a mirror reversed composition which looked quite different from the precursor. To design new visualizations of ragas completely from scratch was not the painter's preference. He would resort to that only when he lacked any clue at all to previous practice.

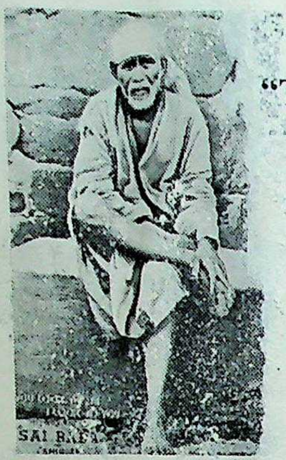
But from where did the first painters take their clues? Apparently from images described in Ragamala poetry. They expressed these images as far as they could with fitting or related picture compositions from older illustrations of the Krishnalila, Nayikabheda, and other love literature.

The poets in turn had received the idea of Ragamala, "a garland of ragas," from musicians. Two thousand years ago the latter were already memorizing and teaching principal and subordinate ragas in groups, which were counted off on one's fingers apparently as it is still done today with the counts of the tala, the rhythmic measures in music, or as prayers are counted on a rosary—another "mala." It is easy to imagine an exasperated guru at one time attempting to explain the groups of melodies to his forgetful student by comparing them to a raja and his wives and labeling the subordinate melodies raginis, i.e., female ragas, or wives of a raga. That analogy was literally at hand. After all, musi-

PANCHAM RAGAPUTRA



Marwar(?), ca. 1640; 5-1/2" x 9-1/2"; National Museum, New Delhi. This painting is marked as the son of raga Bhairav. It belongs to a Ragamala of 86 folios which followed the iconographic details suggested by Mesakarna, a 16-century court priest from Rewa. He describes Pancham Putra as a darkskinned man in a yellow garment, holding in his hands paan, lotus, flute and cymbals, and having the marks of sun and moon on his forehead.



If you look to me
I look to you.
—Sai Baba of Shirdi

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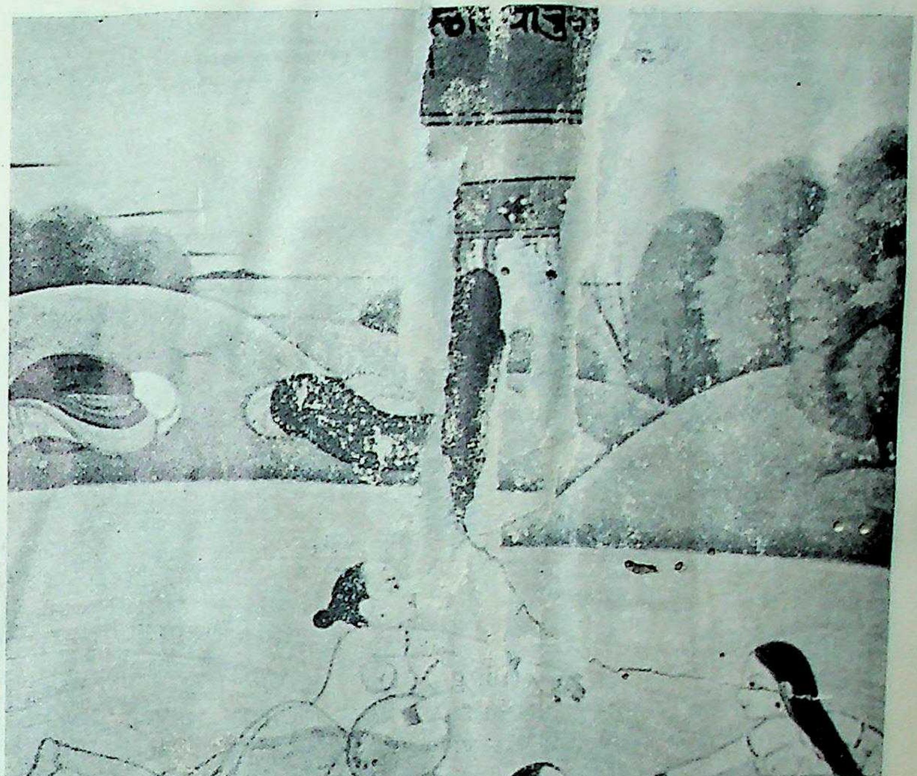
I give people what they want, in the hope they will begin to want, what I want to give them. SAI BABA OF SHIRDI cians believed their music to have both a sound form and a visual or bodily form. They attributed each raga to a patron deity and prayed before each performance or practice for divine blessing. Furthermore, each raga and ragini was assigned to a seasonal function, such as to be sung in the spring (Vasant Ragini), at the advent of the rainy season (Megh Malhar), or early in the morning (Lalit). What now is considered classical concert music originated in the folkish songs of a region (Gujari from Gujarat), or as the songs of peasant girls guarding the ripening fields against grazing deer (Todi), or as the tune of snake-charmers from the mountain tribe of the Saveris (Asavari). Thus a Ragamala most commonly became a series of 36 melodies in six families, each headed by a raga and assigned to one of the six Indian seasons of the year.

About a thousand years ago poetry enjoyed particular popularity and was even practiced as an amateur art form by cultured rulers. Religious and worldly themes alike were well expressed in verse. Hindus delighted in the tales of their epics and mythology; pious Jains collected copies of the *Kalpasutra;* Muslims competed with Hindus in the creation of adventure stories and romances. Small wonder that poets in their search for new themes rephrased the old raga prayer formulas of the musicians and embellished them with aristocratic-cum-divine concepts of husband and wives in specific scenes, moods, activities, and romantic situations in the lifestyle of their listeners. They recited them at the evening fireplace taking turns with the court historians and their battle stories, and they probably also inscribed them in now lost palm leaves for future generations of court poets.

When in the 15th and 16th century paper and miniatures were imported from Persia, miniature painting became also a major Indian art form with wide appeal. And as once the poets thought they were professionally better trained and skilled to express the prayer verses of the musicians, so now did the painters take over the imagery of Ragamala poetry and make them truly visible in painting.

A good number of Ragamala albums are still today in the possession of the families whose forebears had once commissioned them. But more and more have become known and accessible to the public in museums and private

SINDHU R GINNI



Kangra, ca. 1790; National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi. Sindhuri once belonged to an 84-page album. The painter took the word sindhu, ocean, which is hidden in the name, and turned it into a bathing scene. Since these ladies are apparently unsure of their swimming skills, they use empty pots as floats.

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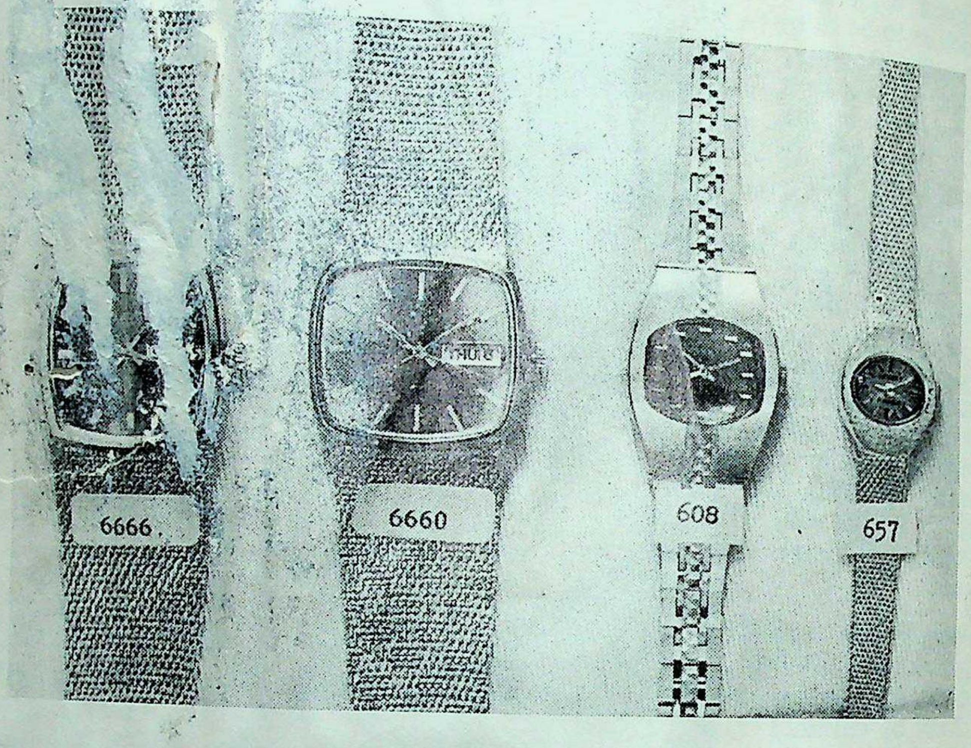

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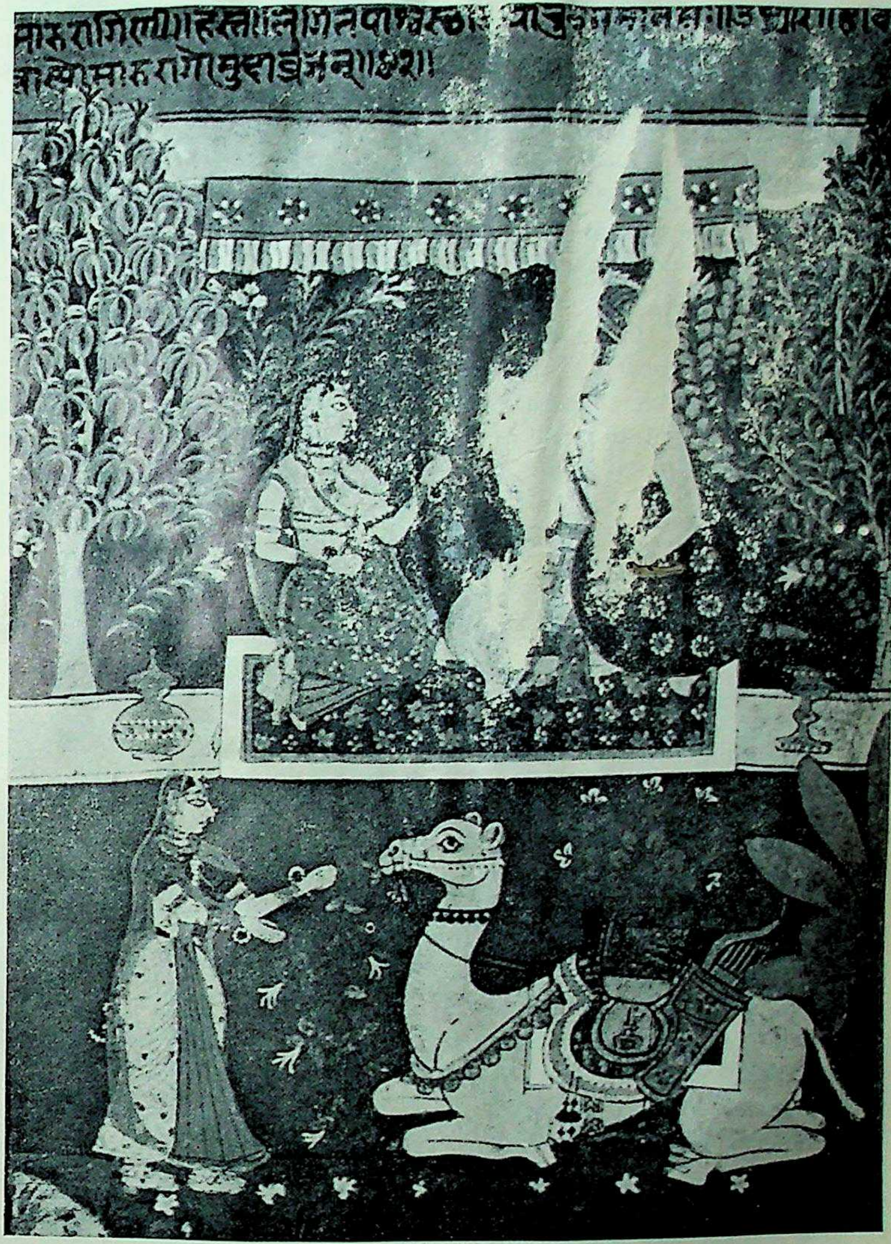
art collections in India, Europe, and America.

What attracted the original patron to this theme? Most patrons of Ragamala albums were Hindu aristocrats and wealthy merchants who loved music, poetry, and painting. They found in these miniatures an expression of all three arts. The pro-Mughal Hindu also emulated the attention paid to miniature painting at the imperial court—the strong Mughal influence in various local painting styles suggests this. The anti-Mughal Hindu found satisfaction and a certain patrotic pleasure in the purely indigenous Hindu subject matter of Ragamala painting.

But most important, Ragamala was an art for women. Left at home by their warrior or merchant husbands for extended periods of time each year, Ragamala served as a cultured reminder of their matrimonial bond and loyalty. It showed them a romantic but pious view of the life of a wife as their husbands saw it or liked to see it. It was in fact a sexual surrogate on a level of socially accepted fantasy for the long periods of abstinence in the young adult years which these wealthy women had to endure as part of their dharma.

MARU RAGINI



Mewar, ca. 1650; 5"x7"; National Museum, New *Delhi*. Maru is one of six names that artists of Mewar added to the usual 36 in order to obtain a 42-folio album. Its picture is derived from the popular love story of Dhola and Maru, who, against strong opposition, find each other with the aid of a blind but ingenious camel.

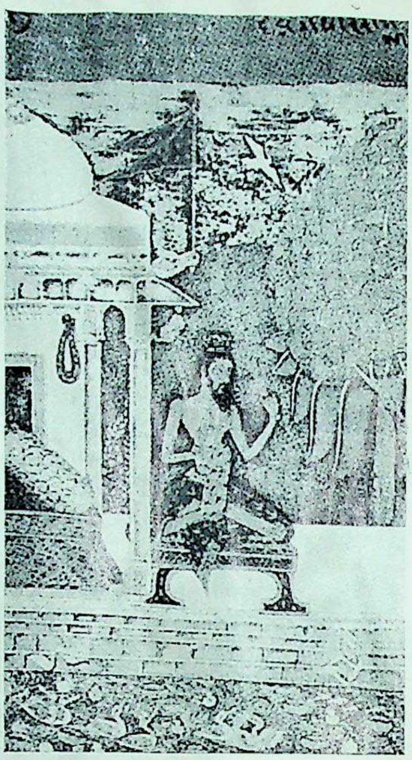
By far the most common and most often painted theme was that of the lone woman, love in separation. In the person of the Ragini she whiles away the loveless days drawing her husband's portrait (Dhanasri Ragini); plucking petals off a lotus, maybe looking for a love oracle (Malsri); wandering through the forest among peacocks (Kakubha) or deer (Todi); praying to Lord Shiva for the safe return of her husband (Bhairavi); or sacrificing to Brahma (Khambhavati); turning like the ideal wife Parvati by the intensity of these prayers into an ascetic (Devagandhar, Bangali, Kamod, Setmalar); finally hearing of her husband's imminent return, arranging flowers in a vase (Gunkali) and putting on the nine traditional items of jewelry (Bilaval).

The second most frequent theme illustrates love in union. When her lord arrives the lady pouts at first because of his tardiness and love marks which betray his prior visit to another woman (Ramkali); but then the great joy of reunion is celebrated in dance (Vasant, Megh Malhar), on the swing (Hindol), at concerts (Sri, Malkos), and in preparation of a passionate night (Bairagi, Malavi, Dipak). What happens then is coyly left unpainted but not unimagined. Dawn marks the end of "the battle of love" (Vibhasa). The husband, with garlands in his hands, leaves reluctantly the chamber of the now sleeping lady.

All these iconographies belong to paintings made in Rajasthan, the Gangetic Valley, and the Deccan. Their pictorial root can be found in a single Ragamala poem by an otherwise unknown poet Kasyapa who may have lived in the 15th or early 16th century and admittedly drew his ideas from sources another thousand years older. About 80 per cent of all surviving Ragamala paintings belong to this tradition which I have named the Rajasthani Tradition.

Based on another poem, which used partly the same ancient source, a second iconographic tradition appeared in Ragamalas from Amber in the 17th and 18th century. It, too, featured six Ragas and 30 Raginis.

Mesakarna, a 16-century court Brahmin from Rewa, Bundelkhand, wrote still another Ragamala poem describing also 48 Ragaputras, sons of Ragas. But only a few Ragamalas, according to Mesakarna, seem to have been painted in the plains, the above mentioned regions, for albums of 84 or more pages were simply beyond the means patience of most patrons. Yet the most voluminous known is among these few. It contained once 251 folios and was painted at Kotah in 1768. In an unbelievable wealth of imagery and fine craftsmanship the painter Dalu added to the 84 Ragas, Raginis, and Putras also 60 daughters and 96 daughters-in-law, as well as six personifications of musical notes, frontispieces and text pages (Collection, Saraswati Bhandar, Udaipur).



DEVAGANDHAR RAGINI, Bundi/Kotah, ca. 1740; 4-1/2" x 7-1/2"; National Museum, New Delhi. Poets describe Devagandhar as a longing wife who has prayed so ferevently **for the return of her husband and has practiced so many austerities to appease the gods that she has turned into an ascetic herself, with matted hair and ash-besmeared body. Such a transformation is an artistic device that comes easy to the poet, but it presents the painter with a distressing choice. How shall he paint a beautiful young woman so lovesick that she has turned into an emaciated ascetic? The crownlike arrangement of jewels around her hair and the rich furniture in the palace-turned-hermitage testify to her former status.**

Mesakarna's poem was, however, the principal sources of all Ragamalas painted in the Pahari-region from Basohli and Kangra to Tehri-Garhwal. Pahari painters apparently had the time and the patrons for 84-folio albums. They found ingenious ways to enliven the uninteresting Ragini iconographies, for Mesakarna, somewhat unfamiliar with the ways of noble women, had favored the Ragas and Putras with all the action and visible distinction. In some cases the painters played on the sound of the musical name. Sindhuri Ragini (sindhu—ocean) shows swimming girls; Kumkuni Ragini pictures a lady with a rooster (Kukkuta); Chandra (moon) Putra represents a moon worshipper; Bhaskar (sun) Putra features a peasant couple milking at sunrise; Harsha (happiness) Putra shows a couple eating paan; and Vinod (gay, lighthearted) Putra depicts a gentleman embracing two women. In other cases the painters made use of a second poem by Mesakarna in which he attributes to each musical mode an animal voice, a sound of nature or a human activity. Thus a cat accompanies Patmanjari Ragini, snakes are fed by Abhiri Ragini, gazelles listen to Gujari Ragini, a dog plays with Saveri Ragini, and Sarang Ragini churns butter.

* * *

Ragamala painting ceased to be a living art in the 19th century due to the growing influence of European "civilization," the decay of the feudal system and its culture, the declining practice of traditional arts in general, and other factors.

In the 20th century many traditional forms of the visual and performing arts received increased attention from scholars, art lovers, and friends of India throughout the world. They and the growing spirit of nationalism within India were significantly guided by such pioneering spokesmen of the Indian heritage as Rabindranath Tagore and Ananda K. Coomaraswamy.

The value and scarcity of the surviving Ragamala paintings, single and in albums, has increased with this general trend. Although their physical fragility was and will be the major cause of their gradual extinction, many examples will appear and disappear in the not always proper ways of colecting and trading. Let us hope that responsible and competent agencies and individuals will preserve for us all this unique Indian contribution to the art of the world.

Courtesy: Span, New Delhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Casteism in Air India

Dear Sir,

India is a country of rich cultural traditions. It has retained its customs and traditions in all walks of life—ladies in graceful sarees, Indian dances, classical music, religious ceremonies etc.

Air India—the airline of a great country is also contributing immensely to keep up with our age old traditions. One of such traditions, it has upheld, with conviction; it seems, is the caste system. Air India has set up the Maharaja class in the air, exclusively for the upper. It has set up a "Harijan class" (under the disguise of economy class) on all their air crafts. This is Air India's one of the contributions to keep up the traditions of India. Its treatment and even salutation to both caste passengers is brahamanical. I agree that even a great sage like Mahatma Gandhi could not eradicate this evil. We also agree that IATA regulations prohibit many emanities to economy class passengers which are available to first class passengers. But, this hardly justifies Air India's manhandling of economy class passengers, who form the bulk of air travellers today, and, who contribute a major portion of the much wanted revenue to the airline.

Rudeness, inefficient service and indifference to the needs of passengers of the Harijan class are some of the highlights of Air India. I travel a great deal on Air India and I see the Air India staff dishing out this treatment to the economy class passengers daily, on the ground and in flight. The Government of India, if not for the sake of giving peace to the soul of the Mahatma — should act in the interest of the country and stop this wonton loss of foreign exchange which arises from the loss of both some foreign and mostly Indian passengers, who in the past have held Air India in their greatest esteem.

If we are determined to practise untouchability in our country let's keep it at ground level only and not take off with it. In particular, I like to protest against the attitude of Air India crew on Hongkong—Bangkok flight on April 12, 1974.

R. Malhotra

Stockholm

Dr Kotnis

Dear Sir,

It is thoughtful of the government to have allowed a delegation of the all-India Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis memorial committee to visit China on a four-week goodwill tour.

The tour is in response to the invitation from the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Dr Kotnis symbolised the great friendship between India and China. Although, since his death in China in October 1948, the two countries have drifted apart, with China never responding to the calls of friendship from peace-loving India, the very mention of the name of Dr Kotnis lifts our thoughts above this unfriendly atmosphere.

This great son of Maharashtra, who joined the India medical mission to serve with the Chinese Eighth Route Army on the Yenan battlefront, married a Chinese girl and later laid down his life serving the cause of the sick on the battlefield.

I hope that the Chinese invitation and our acceptance of it will bring back the same old sentiments of brotherly feelings between the peoples of these two great neighbours.

Krishna Vattam

Mysore,

Indians in Israel

Dear Sir,

Certainly the scores of Indian nationals temporarily residing in Israel deserve a better treatment at the hands of our External Affairs Ministry. Needless to say, in the absence of diplomatic ties between India and Israel, the British embassy looks after our interests there. But, renewal of passports, or inclusion of the names of children born here proves to be a great hurdle as the British embassy has no authority to effect such changes.

Our letters and reminders to the ministry go unacknowledged for months. Hence there are times when we are forced to be without valid passports for long periods and or our children's names not entered. If we have to leave this country suddenly for any reason—God helps us!

We have also been issued two Indian passports, one especially for Israel and the other for other countries. We are unable to travel to countries requiring visas because foreign embassies in Israel refuse to grant visas on either of these passports. So the only alternative open to us is first to travel to a country where visa is not required and then to obtain a visa for the country of destination.

May we, as Indian nationals, ask the government to tell us the reasons for putting us to such inconvenience? To have diplomatic ties with Israel or not is purely a political decision and we leave it to the government. But why should our freedom of movement be curtailed?

John Perry
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Loa, Israel, April 15.

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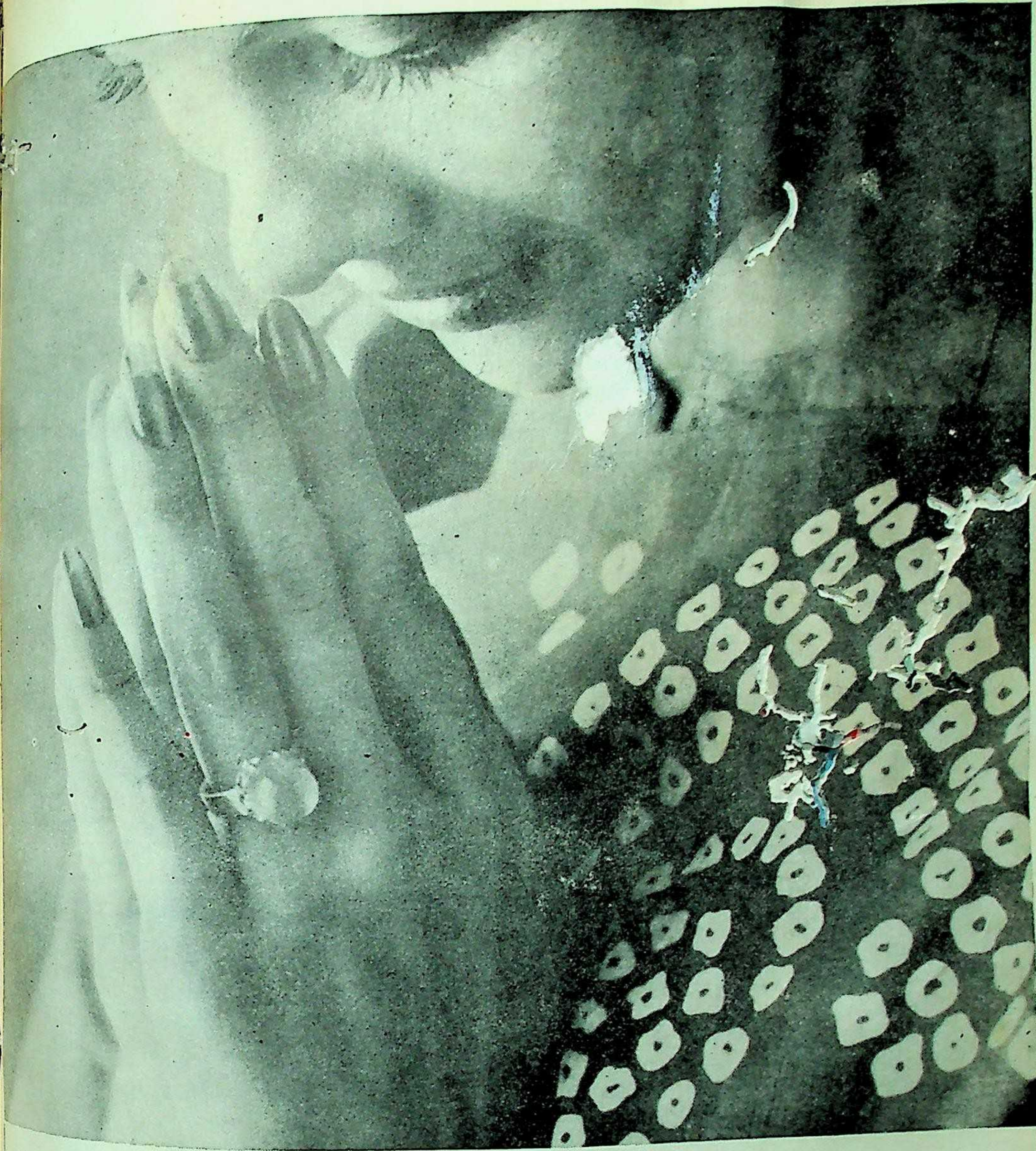

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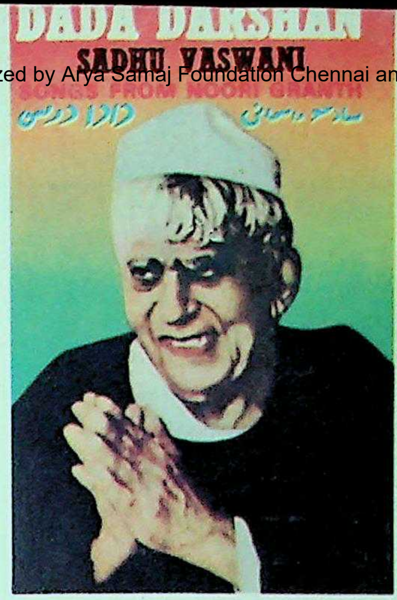
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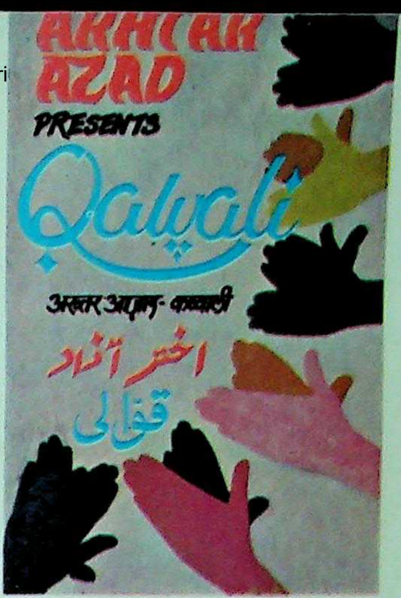
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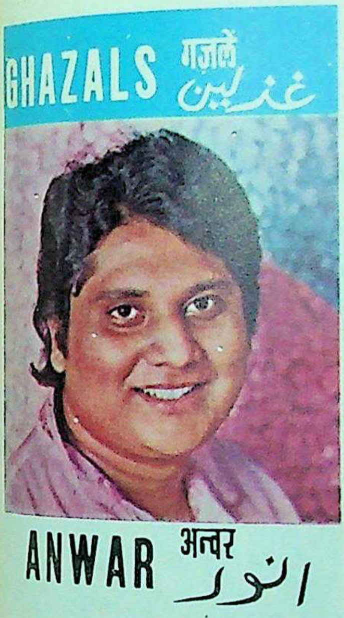
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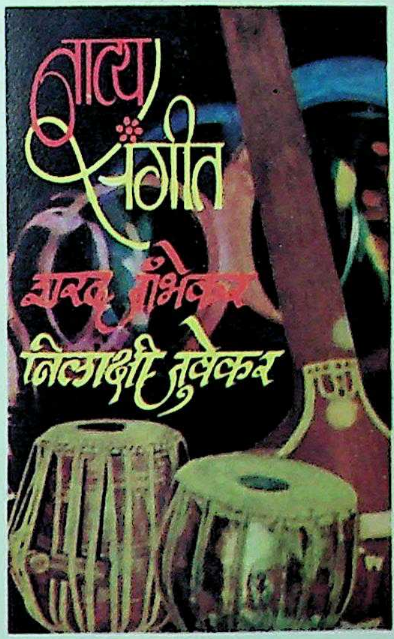
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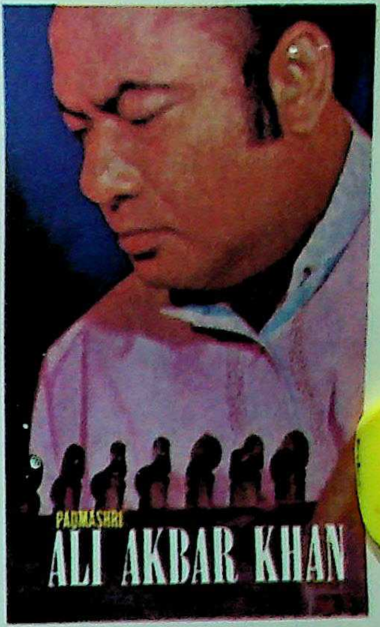
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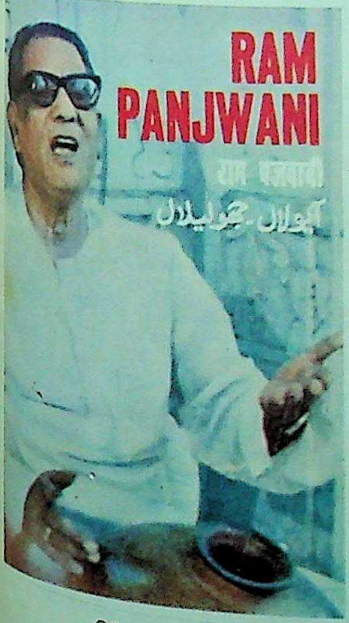
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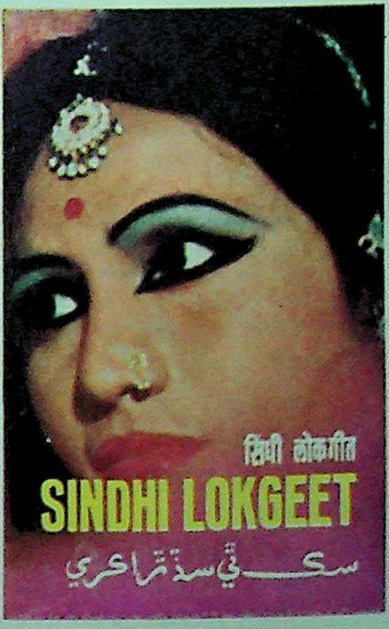
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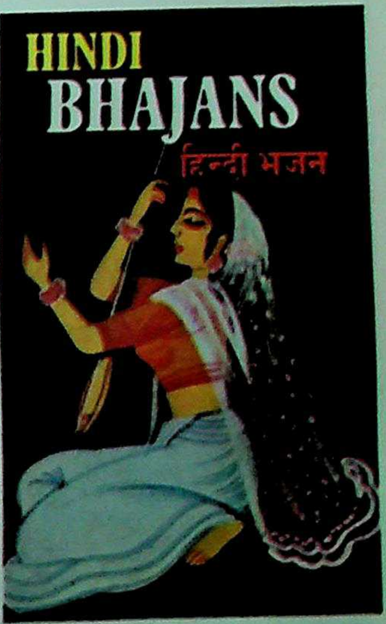
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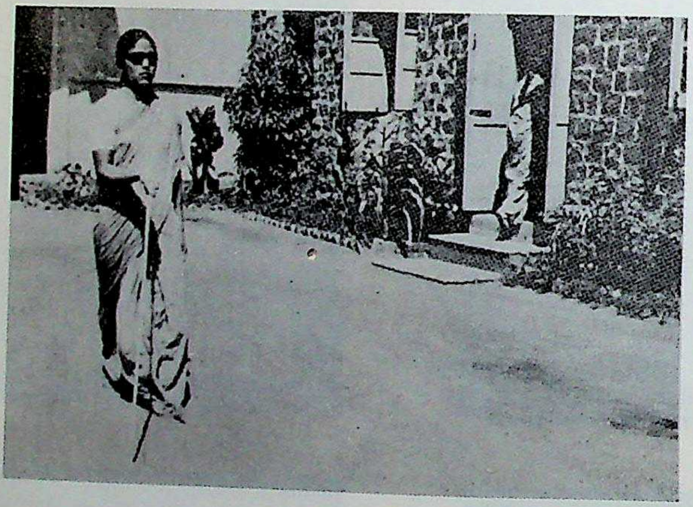

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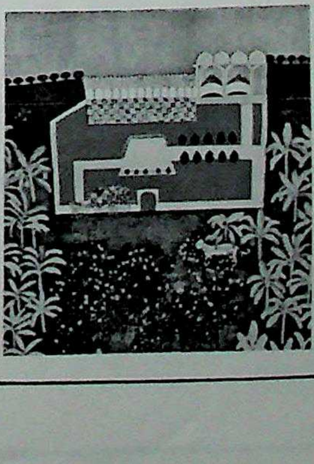

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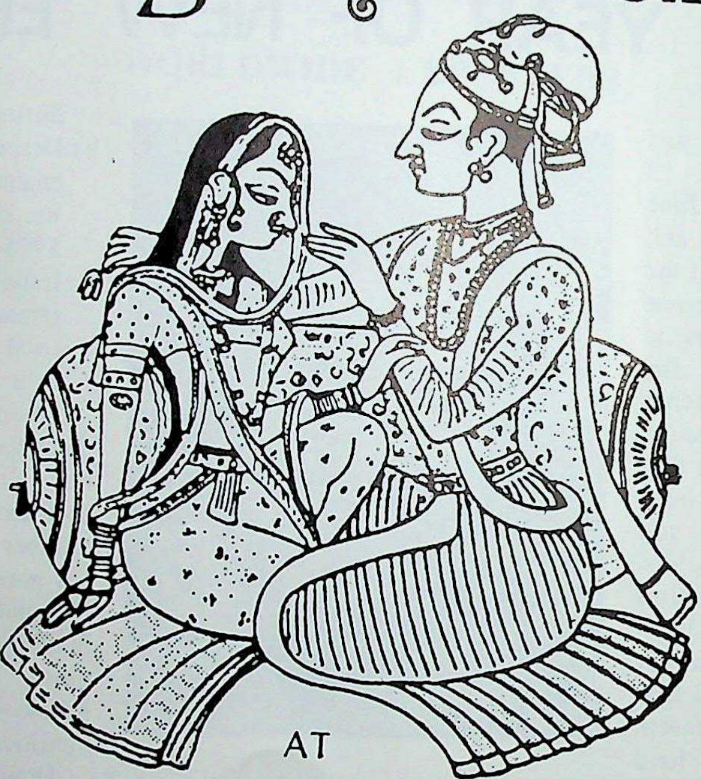

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Without Comment

THER HANDS OVER RANT SON TO POLICE

A father belonging to Bhaluka age under Krishnagar thana, set example by handing over his son the police for theft.

The police said that the son was eping by the side of his father. te in the night, the father noticed son slowly getting up on hearing ignal and going out with some ner persons.

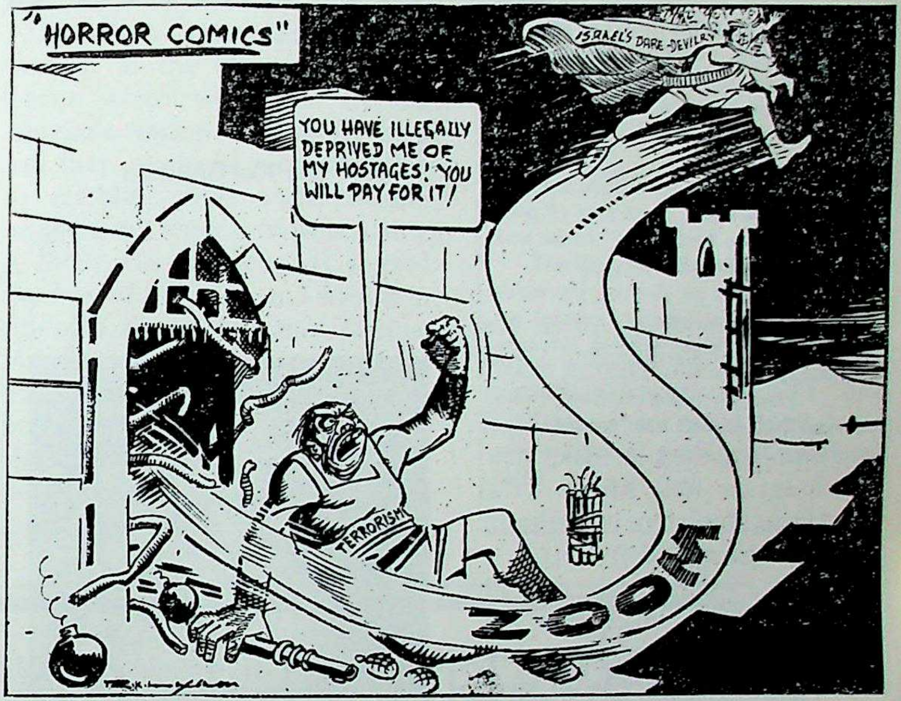
In the morning, the father did t find his son in the house but tead noticed a few tins of lasses and other articles beside a ycle. Suspecting them to be len, the father went to the local rket and made inquiries. His spicion was confirmed by some pkeepers who had lost the ems. He told them that his son d stolen the articles and he nded him over to the police.

OMAN TO DRIVE UTORICKSHAW

Mrs. Jamna Brijvasi, a 28-year- mother of three, has become first woman autorickshaw er in Gujarat and breached yet ther preserve of men.

She has bought an autorickshaw h a loan from the bank of oda.

In a moving speech at a function s Brijvasi expressed her deter- ation to make good in this new ld of self-employment for men. She also holds a licence for vy vehicles.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ISRAEL'S DARE-DEVILRY
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LAST PUFF

A familiar sight greets one's eyes at suburban railway platforms these days following the enforcement of the ban on smoking in compartments.

Just before the departure of a train, one sees rows of smokers standing on the platform, clutching the pole at the footboard with one hand and taking deep draughts from their "fags" with the other.

The first thing the smokers do after alighting from the train is to take out cigarettes from their packs or rush to the nearest tobacco stall.

The ban has come as a great relief to non-smokers and compartments in trains are cleaner.

Now one wonders why the authorities are not coming down on those spitting on platforms which is a real nuisance.

RAILWAY ADS

At least one change which has come over the Central Railway is there for all to see: it has begun putting up hoardings at Victoria Terminus about its achievements. The first had a summer theme – it advertised the fact that the railway ran 105 special trains during the summer.

The second informs the people, mainly suburbanites, about the number of locals run by it. Yet some more hoardings are in the offing.

Will the railway now come out with its own symbolic character like Air-India's Maharaja or Laxman's sad-eyed common man?

Enlarging Hindu Fold In Africa

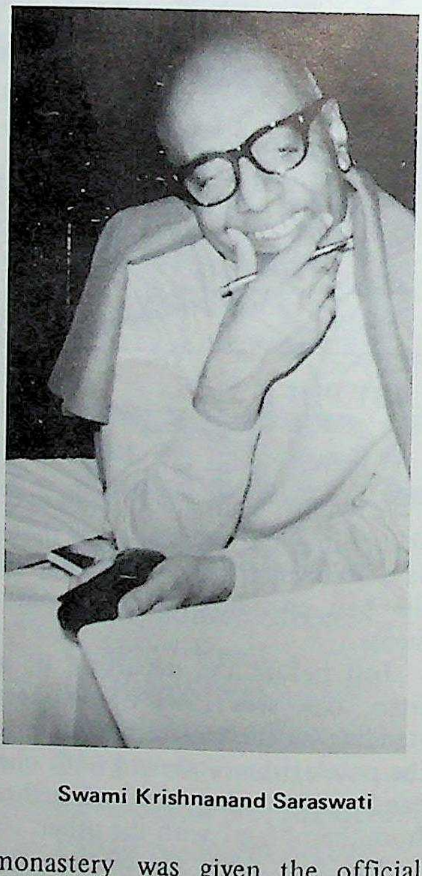
By Kul Bhushan

The black monk of Africa, His Holiness Swami Krishnanand Saraswati, who has worked in Eastern and Central Africa for two decades, has now launched a bold new experiment in West Africa – the first Hindu Monastery of Africa in the Ghananian capital of Accra.

Headed by an African, with all African Hindu disciples, the Monastery eventually aims to serve God through the service of man throughout Africa.

Just a year after its inception, it is opening up branches in other parts of Ghana and West Africa. And considering the unlimited energy and organising capacity of the founder, it is not inconcieveable that it will soon have branches in Eastern and Central Africa where other social welfare organisations initiated by him already exist.

The head of the monastery is an African, Swami Ghananand Saraswati, the new name Guide Kwesi Essel took just over a year ago when he was initiated into the ancient holdy order of renunciates known as 'Sannyasis' in Hinduism. The name is appropriate. In English it refers to the country he hails from and in Sanskrit it means "full of bliss".



Swami Krishnanand Saraswati

On 15 February, 1976, a year later after this first African took the saffron robes of a Swami, the monastery was given the official stamp of approval with the visit of the Ghanaian Head of State and Chairman of the Military Council, General I. K. Acheampong, his wife and the entire Cabinet.

"On this day, God created a new history for Hinduism in Africa", His Holiness wrote to me in a letter.

"Such a thing has never happened outside India. That day, the Head of State along with his wife and the whole Cabinet visited our Monastery. He participated in the worship of Lord Shiva with his entire party, did the 'aarti' (service) and later partook the holy 'prasad' (blessed food).

"The wonderful thing did not stop there. On the same occasion, he laid the foundation stone of a charitable clinic which will cost about 90,000 US dollars – a fantastic amount donated by only one Indian family in Ghana, the Khubchandanis," he said.

The clinic will be the most modern and fully equipped to serve the needy.

This is how the Monastery hopes to serve God through the service of man, said Mr. W. E. Inkumsah, its president, speaking at this impressive ceremony attended by hundreds of guests and 24 African monks.

The monks were given rigorous training in both service to God and man during a three month course. Getting up before the crack of dawn at 3.30 a.m., they start with some yoga practice followed by concentration and meditation. A lecture from the guru with the study of ancient Hindu scriptures and concludes the morning session a prayer.

The disciples then leave for their es of work and social welfare vities. The evening session ins with prayer at 6.15 p.m. owed by the master giving a course on the Yoga of Steadfast dom as given in the Bhagwad . After a 30-minute dinner k, the disciples learn the art of lic speaking, the methods of nising social welfare work er their master's tutelage Back their rooms, the lights out by 9 .

During this intensive training rse, the monks visited hospitals, hanages, started an eye clinic similar other projects.

A leading member of the new nastery is Honourable Justice C.R.A.C. Crabbe – a former High urt judge in Uganda who used to rn yoga from Swami Krishnand and who has since those days rned to his homeland.

The Monastery's President Mr. umsah, said, "Although our rship is Hindu worship, we find word 'Hinduism' a misnomer. The correct name for the worship and way of life we have been initiated is the Eternal Path, the universal religion, the goal eternal.

"The path is man's duty in life, doing one's duty selflessly with devotion and love. This is the path of surrendering the self completely to the Universal Self. In this monastery we are receiving training to become instruments in God's hands. Our goal is to serve God through the service of man.

Even now these black sannyasis worship in the Hindu temples in Ghana which were built by the miniscule Indian community here and they would be soon going out to establish more social welfare projects and temples in West Africa.

Since His Holiness has a good number of followers and friends in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius and other countries, the black sannyasis may well come to work and worship in these countries as well in a new religious and social uplift movement for the entire continent.

Worship of Icons

In the course of spiritual discussions, with a Sanyasin, a king gave expression to his bewilderment at people worshipping stone images as gods.

The sanyasin called for a piece of paper and pencil and asked the king to draw a portrait of himself (the sanyasin). The king being an artist, drew a life-like picture of the Sanyasin.

Thereupon the sanyasin asked the king to spit on it. The king demurred and asked "How can I do so.".

The Sanyasin explained, since you drew my portrait on that paper, it is no longer a mere piece of paper to you, for in your mind's eye, you see me in it. And that is why you cannot bring yourself to spitting on it.

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MALAWI INDIANS FACE THE MUSIC...

By Kul Bhushan

It was wining, music and dancing at the Goan Club in Blantyre on 14 April as the members celebrated a wedding.

Someone asked the radio to be turned down in volume. That was the undoing of the British Asians in Malawi because at that time President Hastings Kamuzu Banda was giving a broadcast.

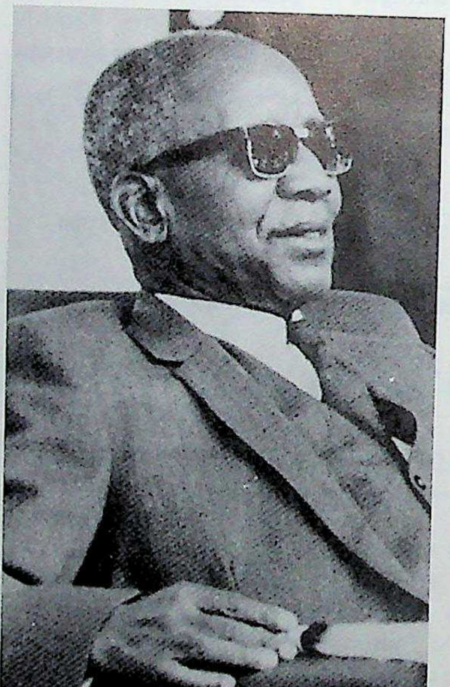
When the matter was reported to the Government authorities, the President ordered all members of the Goan Club to be rounded up and imprisoned. Within 72 hours, 61 of them were on the planes bound for Britain.

The whole Goan community is reported to be ordered to leave Malawi by end of June.

Thus began the latest exodus of Asians from Africa to Britain. The first was from Kenya in early 1968 when British passport holders flocked to the UK to beat the Immigration Act.

The second came from Uganda in August, 1972 when President Idi Amin Dada ordered all 40,000 Asians to be out of the country within three months.

Now Britain is faced with taking in 7,000 more British Asians from Malawi.



President Hastings Banda

Few people would stop to argue with Malawi President Hastings Banda's decision that non-citizen Asians must leave his country. But few could support the manner in which Dr. Banda chose to implement his policy.

With Uganda's expulsion of an estimated 40,000 British Asians at three months' notice in 1972 still fresh in many minds, Malawi's proposed action, while altogether not unexpected, will no doubt serve to merely exacerbate an already tense situation in Britain.

It is an open secret that there is an agreement of sorts between Whitehall and the governments of various African countries with sizeable British Asian communities that there will be a phased exodus of these Asians to Britain.

Under this agreement, Britain allocates a certain proportion of entry vouchers, 5,000 vouchers for Africa – to heads of families in each of the countries. The allocation ensures a smooth welcome for the Asians that are admitted into Britain, and is designed to place not undue strain on the British Government's ability to accept the Asians.

British Foreign Office officials in London, hopeful as always, declined to interpret Dr. Banda's action as suggestive of any mass expulsion of British Asians from that country.

Viewed in the greater light of Dr. Banda's record in the field of human rights, his expulsion of the Goans more or less fits in with the overall picture.

This record, of late, has not been an altogether enviable one. The Malawi leader has virtually snuffed out all political opposition to his has mounted a massive re- us persecution campaign nst the Jehovahs Witness sect; has imposed a leadership cult in country, evidence of.which is to found by reading Malawi's daily spapers.

In his foreign policy, Dr. Banda ften referred to as "Africa's odd out". He has long had a ndly relationship with the racist ernment of South Africa and been an active supporter of the npaign for dialogue with the ster regime.

Malawi's relations with Britain long been friendly and hout strain. His recent acts are und to have a detrimental effect this relationship.

Proof of this came with the port from London that Malawi been warned that economic aid m Britain might be affected if Banda continued to expel ans.

The warning came during a 20- nute meeting between British eign Minister of State, Evan Luard and the Malawi High Commissioner, Mr. Robert Mbaya, informed sources said in London.

Anger has understandably been growing in Britain over Malawi's decision to expel the 250 Asians.

Mr. Mbaya was told of calls in Parliament and the British Press for Britain's aid of $9 million a year in subsidies, loans and grants to be cut if Malawi goes on with its expulsions.

He was reminded that while Britain did not wish to use aid as a political lever, public attitudes had to be borne in minds, the sources said.

Mr. Luard also pointed out that the voucher system under which Britain has been admitting British Asians from Africa over a 10-year period was working satisfactorily and it would be unfortunate if difficulties arose now when the scheme was nearing completion.

The couvher system is expected to be finished in about two years. Commenting on the issue, Sunday Nation here said, "We are extremely shocked by his move to expel a number of Goans from Malawi simply because they were not listening to a radio broadcast by him to the nation. This kind of behaviour by a number of African leaders only help the enemies of Africa to have more ammunition with which they continue to ridicule some African leaders' inability to respect democracy and justice."

"In a continent where African leaders are constantly battling against White supremacy and racist regimes in Southern Africa, it is indeed a great shame for some leaders to behave in a manner that exposes them to the outside world as racists.

The expulsion of thousands of Asians from a neighbouring country a few years ago was undoubtedly an act of extreme racial prejudice. It ashamed those African leaders who have been condemning racialism. We feel Dr. Banda should avoid repeating such embarrasing mistakes," said the paper.

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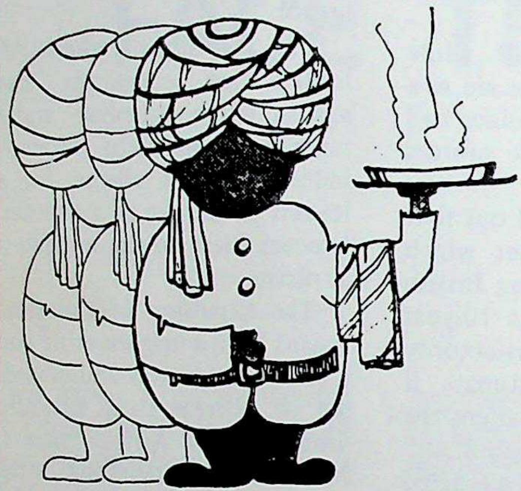

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KASHMIR: BIG TOURIST DRAW

By Asha Dhar

Lake Tahoe, nestling in the oded Californian forests, reded me of the Nagin Lake of hmir, just as when we were driv through Switzerland, the chalets the meadows recalled the ttages and the margs (upland adows) of the 'Happy Vale'. In itzerland, remembering the nb to the Shankaracharya Hill at nagar, and the grandstand view the Valley, the lakes, the serpentine Jhelum river and the mountains from there, I told a Swiss acquaintance that we missed in his beautiful country the unique amphitheatre of mountains that surrounds one everywhere in Kashmir. The Swiss gentleman, who had been to Kashmir twice, agreed that was so, adding; "Switzerland is not so beautiful as Kashmir, only Kashmir is not so commercially touristified."

That was six years ago. Much water has flown down the Jhelum since. During a recent visit to Kashmir, undertaken in desperation to escape the blazing hot Capital city, I was gratified to find an unprecedented spurt in tourism, both domestic and international: a literal tourist boom. The figure of arrivals this year had shot up to over 48,000 by May 15 (as against 36,000 last year, in the corresponding period). These included 6,000

Gulmarg – the 'Queen of India's Hill Stations' – is becoming a year-round resort, with winter sports, conducted on par with international standards, that go on into the spring. The cottages, set in an Alpine setting, are most comfortable and the service is excellent.

– Photo, I.T.D.C.

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John Canady, N. Y. Times

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gners, of which quite a few Indians abroad enjoying the layan holiday in this 'Paradise the Indies'. The Kashmir ism Department folks, geared is influx, told me that this year expect the visitors' figure to to 300,000, which would be double of the last year's total. daily arrival of tourists is esti- d to be around 2,500 to 3,000. these, about 500 arrive by air. pressure on the Indian Airlines, h is running three services daily he Valley's airhead Srinagar, is tense that practically every day request their headquarters for tional flights to clear the rush.

The Kashmir State is well set to act 500,000 tourists by 1980. vision of accomodation for the ious categories of tourists is the enest infrastructure problem. eady, steps are being taken in t direction. The 122-room Hari as palace overlooking the ous Dal Lake as well as the eem Bagh hutments, also off Dal Lake, have been thrown en to tourists for the first time. comodation and other tourist ilities at Gulmarg, Pahalgam, karnag, Yusmarg, Sonamarg and shma Shahi, have been proved.

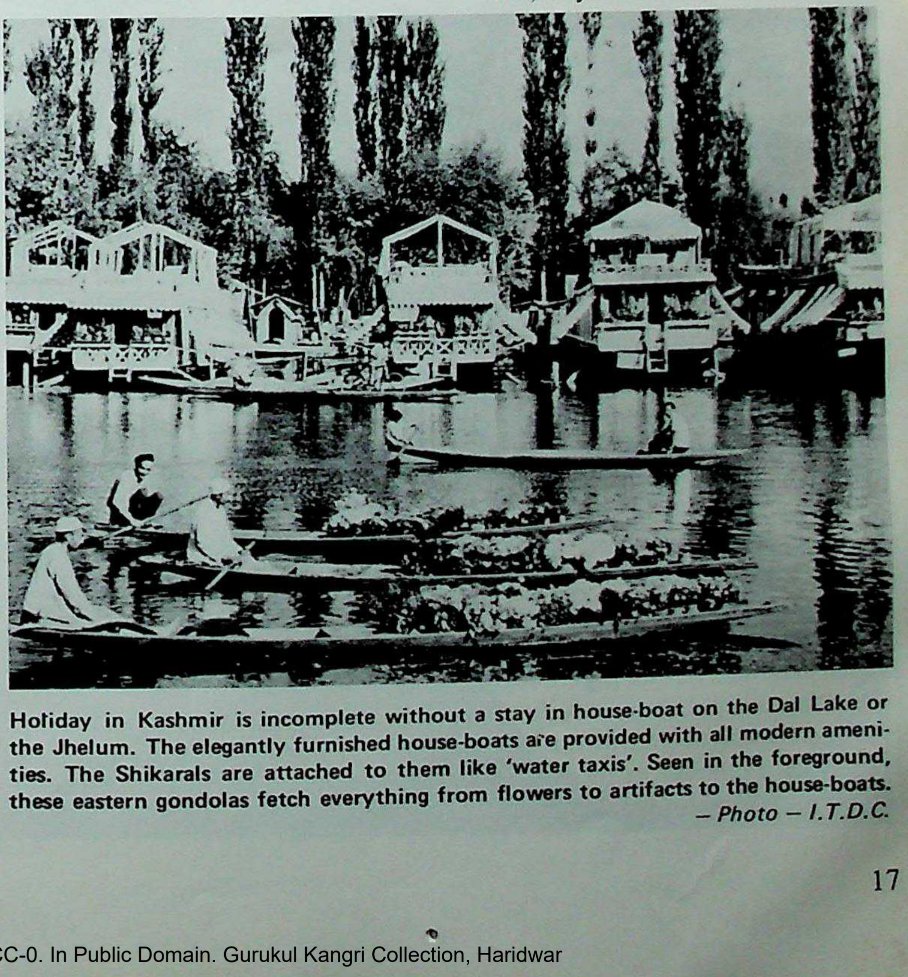
What used to be an off-beat ngri-La, Ladakh, the frontier trict of Kashmir, has shot into a at attraction to the western rists. As against 2000 tourists t year, Ladakh will receive this ar 30,000 (90% of them foreign-). Government accomodation is plemented by sportive Ladakhis o take visitors on P. G. basis too which recalls to me our interest- Paying Guest arrangements in goslavia.

YEAR ROUND RESORT

Gulmarg is not only known for 18-hole golf links (the highest in world) but has been fast catch- up as a ski-resort after the in- ation of a 500-metre chair-lift 4 ski-lifts. With this interna- al attraction, Gulmarg has practically become a year-round resort, the summer and autumn seasons complemented by the emphasis on winter sports, which continue until spring. The Indian Institute of Ski-ing and Mountaineering, started at Gulmarg by the Department of Tourism, Government of India in 1969, has become world-famous. The instructors, it turns out, assist skiers as well as mountaineers. The Institute also conducts water ski courses at Nagin Lake at Srinagar, during the summer months. Over and above the foreign tourist orientation, the Institute has an all-India bias. Among its objectives are building up an interest in ski-ing, water-skiing, mountaineering and trekking among the Indian youth by offering them inexpensive courses. The enduring value of Gulmarg as an international ski resort will be assured when the serial ropeway links Gulmarg with Khillanmarg; a centrally-heated hotel at Gulmarg is also in the offing with the India Tourism Development Corporation.

Besides Gulmarg, tourist resorts like Pahalgam, Sonamarg, Kokarnag, Aharbal, Daksun, Dal Lake, Manasbal Lake and their environs, Manaar and Patni Top are being further developed under a comprehensive programme launched by the State Government several years ago, and intensified recently. The main thrust of the planned development is to stabilise and improve the facilities provided so far and to open new areas with a view to prolonging the stay of visitors and to disperse them over a wider area of the State instead of containing them at the existing popular resorts of Srinagar, Gulmarg and Pahalgam.

The government of the State is paying much attention to the provision of more accommodation – and other facilities – to tourists, foreign and domestic, not only at the resorts in Jammu and Kashmir provinces but also in remote Ladakh. Aided by the Union Government, the State Government is thus making concerted endeavours to develop Kashmir as an internattional year-round resort. The almost unlimited potential of Kashmir in the field of domestic tourism is being well exploited. The ambitious target, to have half a million tourists – foreign and domestic – by the end of the Fifth Plan, may well materialise.



Holiday in Kashmir is incomplete without a stay in house-boat on the Dal Lake or the Jhelum. The elegantly furnished house-boats are provided with all modern amenities. The Shikarals are attached to them like 'water taxis'. Seen in the foreground, these eastern gondolas fetch everything from flowers to artifacts to the house-boats.
– Photo – I.T.D.C.

COMMENTARY:

INDIA'S NEW NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY

By Arvind Bhandari

The national population policy, announced on April 16, deserves praise as a judicious amalgam of business-like approach and humane understanding. A business-like approach can no longer be postponed because of the seriousness of the problem. Humane understanding is equally necessary because of the problem's complexity.

In bringing out the problem's seriousness, some cardinal statistics bear repetition. With 2.4 percent of the world's land area, India has 15 percent of the global population. The country's population, already past the 600-million mark, is now rising at the rate of over one million per month, which means two babies every three seconds. An Australia is added to our population every year. At this rate, India has the prospect of her population touching one billion at the turn of the century. The target of the national population policy is to reduce the growth rate from 35 per thousand in the beginning of the fifth plan to 25 per thousand at the end of the sixth.

The problem is complex because it relates to a sensitive area of human relations having psychological, social and economic ramifications. Here are some pertinent issues. It has, for example, to be ensured that there is easy and abundant availability of contraceptives in all our towns and villages. While the effectiveness of vasectomy and tubectomy for limiting the size of families is undeniable, it may not be forgotten that the toll taken among the poor by malnutrition and child mortality is quite high and that these operations, are generally regarded as irreversible. Furthermore, ignorance apart, people tend to have more children because of the need for more hands, old age security and desire for a son or a balanced family.

The desire for a balanced family may be psychological, but it is a factor that seems to operate universally. Even the Government-sponsored red-triangle poster invariably portrays the ideal family as comprising one daughter and one son. Should we also not consider the darkness or semi-darkness that rules life after sunset in most of the country's 550000 villages? The impact of darkness on birthrate was dramatically illustrated some years ago when there was a general power failure in New York.

The purpose of enumerating these facts is only to bring out the multi-faceted nature of the problem and put it in its proper perspective. It is suggested neither that these facts should not or cannot be changed nor that the approach can afford to be lackadaisical.

The national population policy reflects an admirable awareness of the needs of a complex problem. Recognizing that our real enemy is poverty, NPP recommends an integrated approach to population control based on persuasion, education, motivation and socio-economic development. It is a 12-point package which the Union Health Minister has untied. Striking a business-like note, Dr Karan Singh has warned that if the programme is to succeed, the urban-elitist approach will have to be supplanted by a vigorous rural-oriented approach.

The points in the package deserve reiteration. 1) The minimum age of marriage is to be raised to 18 for girls and 21 for boys. Compulsory registration of marriages is being actively considered. 2) Representation in the central and state legislatures as well as devolution of central funds to the states will be frozen on the basis of the 1971 census till 2001. 3) Higher outlays for girls' education and child nutrition. 4) Population values are to be included in the educational curricula. 5) A directive is to be issued by the Prime Minister to all Central ministries that, in addition to their normal work, they should motivate citizens to adopt responsible reprotive behaviour. A similar letter eing sent to Chief Ministers. 6) etary compensation for volun- y sterilization will be increased. Facilities for medical termina- n of pregnancy will be extended the rural areas. 8) The idea of up incentives is to be propagated. Aid to voluntary organisations l be expanded. 10) There will be ebate in income tax on amounts en as donations for family plan- g purposes. 11) Increased attention is to be paid to research in roductive biology and contra- ption. 12) Last but not least, a lti-media motivational strategy is ing evolved which will utilise all edia channels.

Compulsory sterilization has ovoked a debate in the country. s opponents outnumber the sup- rters, both inside and outside rliament. The national popula- n policy also favours the prin- ple of voluntariness. However, alth being a state subject, some ates like UP, Maharashtra and njab appear to believe that compulsory sterilization after two or three children is the only effective way to check the population explosion. The motivation and concern behind contemplation of compulsory sterilization is understandable. But it needs to be carefully examined whether the administrative and medical infrastructure exists for the proper implementation of a measure which has such wide-ranging implications. Moreover, as the states pursue their population policies in accordance with their best judgment and understanding of particular needs and problems, they can be expected not to lose sight generally of the broad framework of the national population policy.

There appears to be some rumour-mongering, and this can hamper the family planning programme. A number of persons have been arrested for alleged rumour-mongering in Delhi. But, as Dr Karan Singh has cautioned, it is equally important that overenthusiastic officials and functionaries do not act, or appear to act, in a coercive manner, so that no impression is created which is unfair to the genuine merit of the national population policy. The Prime Minister has assured that action would be taken if specific instances of coercion or harassment are brought to the notice of the authorities. While taking note of this welcome assurance, the people should cooperate with the authorities in discouraging any malicious or tendentious propaganda.

It would be utterly wrong to regard the national population policy as anti-child. The basic idea is to limit the size of the families to ensure a better life for men, women and children. India's family planning programme is to be one of the biggest experiments in world history. Its success is essential for the future economic progress of the country. This success requires a mutual recognition by both the state and the individual of what they owe to each other.

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WHAT IS ALLERGY ?

D.J.A. REBELLO

One man's meat may be another n's poison. You could take the horism literally. You could say, latter is *allergic* to meat. You ld not say why, though. There people who show an intense, verse reaction to a normally nocuous substance – be it foodtuff, dust, pollen, certain drugs or en pigments of certain colours. e earlier term for this reaction s "anaphylaxis," meaning "witht protection". In 1906, Von quet of Vienna coined the term llergy" to describe the "altered ction of an animal when exposed n offending substance".

The offending substance is own as an *allergen*. Many believe t sensitivity to an allergen is sed through heredity and the rgic reaction is said to occur in o stages – the first exposure elops the person's sensitivity to substance, and the subsequent posures produce the adverse action.

What's the actual mechanism of reaction? When an allergen gets o the body, the body immediatereacts to protect itself. The allern could enter the body in many ys: by inhalation in the case of t and pollen, by ingestion in the of foodstuffs and oral drugs, injection in the case of drugs other medications, or even by orption. What actually triggers reaction in the body is a mical substance referred to as an *igen.*

The body produces chemical stances to combat and neutralise h antigens. These are called *bodies.* Antibodies persist in the body even after the antigen has been cleared away, either circulating in the bloodstream or attaching themselves to certain specific cells in the body. The presence of these antibodies is what makes a person sensitised. If the individual is once again exposed to the antigen, the antibodies seek it out and interact with it. In the process, several pharmacologically active substances are released which bring on the adverse reactions of allergy. (It is interesting to note that antibody production in the body is an immunological function – the basis of protective vaccination against several disease conditions.)

Allergy can, therefore, in a way be considered an immunological reaction gone haywire. Actually, the body is sensitive towards any foreign substance; the allergic body is hyper-sensitive. The word 'hyper-sensitivity' has thus come to be a clinical description of the allergic state. The intensity of the reaction would, of course, depend upon the

COMMON ALLERGIES AND ALLERGENS

An individual may be allergic to anything. The main allergens however, are pollen, house dust, the dander of certain animals, fungal spores, chemicals, drugs and foodstuffs.

Food allergies could cause urticaria, asthma or intestinal upsets. Among the drugs, penicillin could cause anaphylaxis, urticaria, serum sickness-like reactions or delayed hypersensitivity. Other drugs could cause eczematous reactions, urticaria, large blisters, eruptions, small haemorrhages in the skin (purpura), widespread papular eruptions or exfoliate dermatitis. In the blood, drugs could cause anaemia and agranulocytosis. In the gastrointestinal tract, they could cause nausea, vomiting or colic. Some cause photo-dermatitis, while others could damage internal organs like the liver.

Reactions to cosmetics are uncommon. The commonest sensitisers in cosmetics are perfumes which are present in most cosmetic formulations. Other allergens are organic dyes and antimicrobial agents. Here is a list of potential allergens in widely used cosmetics; face creams – azo-dyes, lanolin, parabene; face powder, rouge and lipsticks – eosin, azo dyes, carmine, lanolin, oleyl alcohol; hair dyes, mascara and eyebrow pencil – paraphenylene diamine, paratoluene diamine, para amino diphenylamine; hair lacquers – shellac, benzene, resoxinol; deodorants – formaldehyde, tetracholorocarbinilide, hexachlorophine; shampoos – azo dyes, bithionol, hydroquinoline; sun creams – para aminobenzoic esters (photosensitisers); hand lotions and creams – lanolin (triethanolamine); toilet soaps and shaving lotions – antimicrobial agents (hexachlorophene); nail varnish – formaldehyde, plastics.

The formaldehyde resins used for crease resistance in wash-and-wear clothing could cause dermatitis. So can the rubber used in elastics for undergarments, the nickel in zip fasteners, hooks and eyelets (which causes chronic eczema) and costume jewellery, especially earrings and watchstraps.

In the house, detergents, oven cleaners, grease removers, drain cleaners, etc are irritants that could behave as sensitisers. Other substances include rubber sponges, rubber mattresses, contraceptive creams, shoes, rubber chromates, dyes, nickel and plastics, wood lacquer, paints, antiseptics, balms, tooth pastes (cause circumoral dermatitis), bubble gum, dental fillings, chrysanthemums, violets, vines, congress grass, insect sprays (containing DDT, lindane, etc), some papers and inks.

The list would be endless if one considers the fact that recently 85,000 chemicals in common use have been associate with allergic reactions.

intensity of exposure to the allergenic antigen. Such reactions are usually manifested as symptoms like asthma, urticaria, allergic colds, etc. In extreme cases, allergies can be fatal.

Some psychiatrists feel that an allergic symptom like asthma in a child is a cry for the mother expressed through the organ rather than the vocal chords. Or it could be a reaction against domineering parents. Emotional upsets and tensions could, therefore, contribute considerably to the onset of an allergic reaction. Such upsets affect the autonomic (involuntary) nervous system which, in turn, triggers off the parasympathetic fibres controlling the muscles.

The manifestations of allergy generally occur in some particular organ or tissue in the body. (The site could vary from individual to individual.) These organs or tissues are referred to as the "shock organs". In asthma, the shock organ would be the windpipe and its branches, in hay fever (allergic colds), the mucous membrane of the nose, in eczema, the skin, and so on. One fact must be borne in mind: though the initial allergic interaction takes place anywhere in the body, the symptoms occur in the shock organs. Generally, it is the route of entry of the allergen that determines the shock organ (like the nose for inhaled allergens), but symptoms could, sometimes, occur in a totally unrelated organ.

Are there "types" of allergies? To be frank, there are so many potential allergens present around us and so many allergic manifestations that any such classification is difficult. However, two general categories exist: the "immediate" and the "delayed" allergies. In immediate allergies, the reaction sets in immediately after the second exposure to an allergen. In delayed allergies, the reaction is slow and progressive, reaching a peak 24 to 72 hours after the second exposure. The time difference, however, is merely of secondary importance in the classification. There are certain fundamental differences in these two types of allergies. The main one is the mediator of the allergy in the body. Immediate allergies are mediated by their specific antibodies which circulate in the bloodstream. Delayed allergies, are not mediated by such circulating antibodies but by certain specific cells (T-type lymphocytes) present in the blood-stream, spleen and lymph nodes which have been sensitised by antibody-antigen interactions.

Allergies are more widespread in a population than one would suspect. Many may be too minor to arouse interest; many may pass away spontaneously without causing too much harm. But allergies could be dangerous, sometimes fatal. A person susceptible to allergies generally shows up his or her sensitivity before the age of twenty-one. And then, an allergic reaction can be sparked off by anything under the Sun, and even by the Sun. For example, one women was allergic to the hair tonic her husband used, another to a contraceptive. Or, a child may eat fish or eggs with impunity; but the moment he takes a combination of fish and eggs he may suffer an allergic reaction. Also, an individual can suddenly develop an allergy to a substance that has never harmed him or her before.

This, of course, makes the identification of an allergen difficult. The process involves a lot of detective work for the dermatologist. First the history of the allergic condition is studied. Detailed information on where the eruption started, its evolution, what aggravates it, when it improves, the effects of the seasons, etc must be obtained through questioning the patient.

The patient must then be subjected to a battery of skin tests. Four such tests are commonly used: the patch test, the scratch test, the intracutaneous test, and the usage test.

Patch tests are usually done for detecting a contact allergen. Here, the substance to be tested is applied to the skin of the forearm or the back and left for 24 to 48 hours. The reactions are then studied. In scratch tests, a small scratch is made on the forearm or the back. Care should be taken to prevent any bleeding. If more than one scratch is made, there should be gaps of about 18 mm. A small drop of liquid antigen is then applied to each scratch. A positive reaction would consist of local wealing which appears within 10 to 15 minutes.

Intracutaneous tests are resorted to only if the scratch tests do not show a significant reaction. In this case, an aqueous extract of the suspected substance is injected into the skin. Though more reliable than the scratch tests, these tests also carry a certain amount of risk: a highly sensitive person could develop severe systemic reactions.

In usage tests, the person is actually made to use the suspected substance — clothing, shoes, etc — and placed under observation. Unfortunately, medicine is yet to find any definite "cure" for allergy. All that the physician and the patient can hope for is relief. The best way to bring about relief would be to remove the possibility of contact with the offending allergen. Thus, a person allergic to fish could stop eating fish. Doctors generally relieve patients by treating their symptoms. Thus, in the case of allergic asthma, doctors could prescribe anti-histamines to relieve the spasms of the bronchi. There is, however, one method to combat allergies to an extent. This is the process of desensitisation. In desensitisation, an allergic patient is exposed to small quantities of the antigen in increasing doses. He or she thus acquires a tolerance to large doses of the antigen. But, here, the procedure has to be repeated each time prior to a large exposure, like before the onset of the pollen season or before administration of a drug that cannot be avoided.

TYPES OF ALLERGY

Under the two broad classificat-ns of immediate and delayed pes, allergies can be sub-classified o four categories: anaphylactic ctions, cytotoxic or cytolytic ctions, toxic complex syndrome, d cell-mediated allergies. Of se, the first three fall under the mediate group while the last is a m' of delayed hypersensitivity. et us look at these categories in ore detail.

Anaphylactic reactions: This lergic condition was first noted in xperimental animals. If a guinea g is injected with a small dose of n antigen such as egg albumin, it mediately produces antibodies ainst the antigen. There is, of urse, no visible reaction. Now, if second injection of egg albumin is ven intravenously after about 10 ys, the guinea pig suffers from aphylactic shock. It first becomes stless and its breathing gets boured. Later, the animal be-mes cyanosed (turns blue) and ay develop convulsions and die. eople may react similarly to an jection of anti-tetanus serum.

In anaphylactic shock, the initial ection is the sensitising dose, the cond one the shocking dose. ock occurs as a result of the eraction of the shocking dose tigen with the antibodies evoked the sensitising dose on the sur-e of cells. This interaction leads the release of several pharmaco-gically active substances. These stances make the capillaries of e circulatory system more perme-e and cause contractions in ooth muscles in the body. reased capillary permeability ds to the formation of oedema uid) in the bronchi, which has an phyxiating effect. Smooth muscle contractions could lead to spasms in the bronchi and cause respiratory problems.

Four such pharmacologically active substances have been identified and implicated in allergic reactions. Histamine is the predominant one. Histamine causes contractions of the intestines, bronchi and uteri. Another is 5-hydroxy-tryptamine, which is responsible for the contractions of plain muscles and increases capillary permeability. Though its role in anaphylactic shock is uncertain, it may be involved in intestinal food allergies. The third type is SRS-A (or slow-reacting substance) which has a contracting effect on plain muscles and acts, unlike histamine, on the larger rather than smaller muscles. It has a marked contracting effect on the bronchial muscle in man and is probably the predominant pharmacological agent in human asthma. The last substance forms a group called the plasma kinins. Of these, the best known is bradykinin which has histamine-like effects and is present in the bloodstream of many animal species in the early stages of anaphylactic shock, though its role in man is uncertain.

Anaphylactic reactions can be of two kinds. If the antigen is injected parenterally, as in a foreign serum injection (horse anti-tetanus serum) or in a drug injection (penicillin) or in an insect bite, the systemic form of anaphylaxis is likely to develop. The symptoms then include spasms and oedema in the bronchi, skin rashes, a fall in blood pressure and, sometimes, death.

If, however, the antigen comes primarily in contact with the respiratory mucous membrane, then, in a sensitised individual, the local form of anaphylaxis develops. Some examples of local anaphylaxis are hay fever and asthma. Hay fever produces sneezing, while asthma produces wheezing. If the appropriate antigen (nuts, fish, eggs, pork, bananas, channa, strawberries, etc) is eaten, it comes in contact with the intestinal mucous membrane. A mixed reaction may occur with intestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, gripes, diarrhoea, skin rashes (urticaria) and, sometimes, wheezing.

As each antibody combines only with its specific antigen, there are many types of antibodies in the body. In general, they belong to a group of substances in the blood called immunoglobulins. There are five types of immunoglobulins in the blood (IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD and IgE). Of these, the IgE class is involved in anaphylactic reactions.

Prevention of anaphylaxis can be achieved by a process of desensitisation —injecting repeated small doses of the antigen into the sensitised individual to stimulate antibody formation involving the circulating IgG immunoglobulin. As this immunoglobulin circulates in the blood and tissue fluids, it can neutralise the injected antigen before the antigen reaches the IgE immunoglobulin which is tissue-fixed. The IgG antibody has thus been named the blocking antibody. Its induction is the basis of desensitisation treatment of anaphylactic shock. This type of treatment is, however, more effective in systemic anaphylaxis rather than in local anaphylaxis. In the latter case, the blocking antibody must be present in the mucous secretions; thus a parenteral injection of an antigen would prove ineffective. However, desensitisation to pollen which causes hay fever and asthma may be achieved by a prophylactic course of pollen antigen injections given just before the onset of the pollen season. About 70 per cent of such cases have reported some clinical benefit from such desensitisation.

Cytolytic or cytotoxic type of reactions: Some antigens become part of a tissue cell or are closely associated with a cell in the body, especially drugs given for a specific purpose. Antibodies directed against such cell-associated antigens can bring about a cytotoxic or cytolytic effect. This effect involves another substance in the blood called "complement" which is present in a low concentration in normal serum. Not all antibodies can trigger the reaction; only the IgM and IgG antibodies are involved. When the antibody binds to the cell surface, an alteration takes place in the antibody that permits it to combine with the complement. When the complement binds to the antibody, it can destroy red blood cells, thus causing damage to the body.

Cytolytic reactions could occur, for example, in blood transfusions. Sometimes the transfused blood is incompatible with the patient's blood. Antibodies in the recipient's blood react with antigens in the transferred blood, leading to the destruction of red blood cells and their deposition in the kidneys which then cannot function properly. Another example is the haemolytic disease of the newborn. In this case, antibodies are formed in the mother against antigens in the foetus. These antibodies enter the foetus through the placenta and react with foetal red blood cell antigens; the reaction destroys these foetal cells. Sometimes, a person could form antibodies against his or her own (autologous) red blood cells. This condition is autoimmune haemolytic anaemia.

Toxic complex syndrome: Such reactions occur when circulating antibodies combine with antigens to form microprecipitates in and around small blood vessels, with the result that inflammation and, sometimes, mechanical blockage of the vessels occur, causing interference with the blood supply to tissues.

There are two types of reactions which fall into this category: a systemic form or serum sickness and a local form, named the Arthus reaction. The former type occurs after injections of foreign serum like horse diphtheria antitoxin for therapeutic purposes. Foreign serum proteins are usually eliminated from circulation over a period of a few weeks. If a 10 to 20 ml serum injection is given, a large amount will persist in the body even after the production of antibodies has taken place. The consequent formation of antibody-antigen complexes could cause a wide variety of symptoms, depending upon the immunoglobulin involved. The organs affected include the kidney and heart which get inflamed and the joints which become swollen and painful. Urticaria frequently occurs, and the patient becomes febrile. The symptoms disappear when the foreign serum protein is eliminated from the circulation.

The Arthus reaction, like serum sickness, is brought about by the formation of antibody-antigen complexes. But the reaction in this case is local, at the site of injection of the antigen. This reaction occurs in the walls of small blood vessels in the presence of large quantities of IgG antibody which form microprecipitates with the antigen. Very often, the patient and the doctor are taken by surprise because several earlier injections might have been innocuous. When the reaction is about to set in, even a test dose of antigen could trigger off inflammation, necrosis and haemorrhage the site of the injections. The liberation of substances like histamine causes an increase in vascular permeability and consequent oedema. The Arthus reaction is, however, of relatively minor clinical importance.

Cell-mediated delayed hypersensitivity: Such hypersensitivity may be defined as a specifically provoked, slowly evolving (24 to 48 hours), mixed cellular reaction involving, in particular, the lymphocytes and macrophages (phagocytic tissue cells). The reaction is not induced by circulating antibodies but by lymphoid cells. It can thus be transferred in animals by cells and not by serum.

The classical example of this allergic reaction is the turberculin response which occurs when an individual previously or currently infected with tubercle bacilli is given an intradermal injection of 0.1 ml (1:1000 dilution) of an extract of tubercle bacilli (purified protein derivative or PPD); 24 to 48 hours later, an indurated inflammatory reaction of variable size can be seen on the skin.

Delayed hypersensitivity reactions are characteristically induced by intracellular infection agents which include salmonellae, brucellae, mycobacteria, pathogenic fungi and a wide range of viruses like those of measles, mumps and herpes simplex.

These reactions can sometimes develop after sensitisation to a variety of metals ranging from nickel and chromium to simple chemical salts like dyestuffs and potassium dichromate (affecting cement workers) to chemicals such as paraphenylene diamine (in hair dyes). These substances are not in themselves antigenic. They, thus, cannot induce antibody production in the body. However, if these simple substances combine with more complex substances, they can induce antibodies which are specific to them and not to the substances they combine with. Such substances are referred to as haptens. The clinical signs induced in such "contact hypersensitivity" reactions (contact dermatitis) include redness, swelling, vesicles, scaling and exudation of fluid. A topical application of a penicillin formulation, too, could result in sensitisation to penicillin.

D.J.A.R.

Courtesy: Science Today, Bombay

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NEW TYPE OF UNIFORM FOR AI HOSTESSES

Saris inspired by 17th century Kangra miniatures will soon be worn by Air-India's Indian hostesses, it was stated in Bombay recently.

The saris will have the motifs appearing on the panels of the B747s. The colour schemes represent the colours of the Indian countryside in the summer and the autumn.

The churidar-kameez has a colourful variation, with the jacket designed on the lines of a Naga shawl.

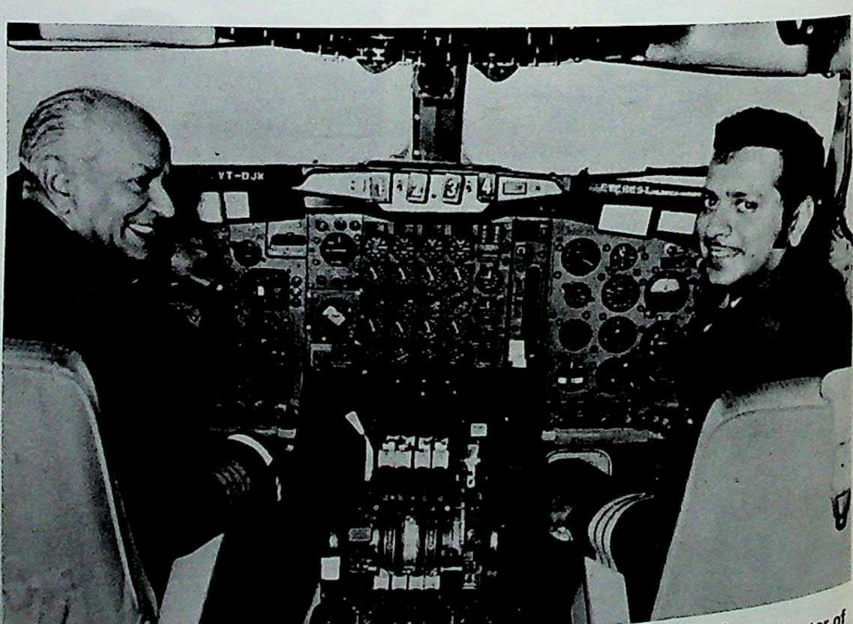
The European and Japanese hostesses will wear an adapted version of the uniforms worn by the European ground receptionists.

Air India's managers from Tokyo, Osaka, Hong Kong and Bangkok, met together with the Regional Director East Asia, Mr. C. S. Pinto, and his successor, Mr. Balendu Shah. Seen from L to R: Mr. K. Behramkamdin, Regional Accounts Manager, Mr. M. P. Mascarenhas, Manager — Hong Kong, Mr. H. K. Malik, Manager — Bangkok, Mr. Pinto, Mr. Shah, Mr. M. Gomes, Manager — Tokyo.

'KANYAKUMARI WILL BE A PROMINENT TOURIST SPOT'

Kanyakumari will find a prominent place on the tourist map of India with the completion of the Trivandrum-Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari broad-gauge line, Mr. V. Sankarasubbaiyan, district collector, told newsmen.

He said at present 3,000 to 3,500 tourists visited the township everyday. This was expected to double with the completion of the railway line, he said.



After 34 years with India's flag carrier, Capt. V. N. Shirodkar, Air India's Director of Operations, has hung up his flying gloves and headset. On the eve of his retirement, Capt. Shirodkar was still at the controls in the cockpit, and is the only commercial pilot in India to have continued flying till the age of 60. Capt. Shirodkar (left) is seen relaxing after bringing in his last flight, with his son Anil as his co-pilot.

BOMBAY-PUNE TOURIST BUS SERVICE

The Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation will operate a daily air-conditioned ursion service between Bombay Pune from July 12. From Pune first bus will leave on Tuesday ning.

The bus will leave Bombay from regional office of the corporation at C.D.O. Hutments at 5.30 and reach Pune at 9.30 p.m.

The return service will start from e railway station at 7.30 a.m., mbay at 11.30 a.m. The single rney fare of the excursion trip is 50.

cceeding Capt. Shirodkar is 47 ear old Capt. D. Bose, who came to ir India from Indian Airlines in 954. Starting on the Connies and uper-Connies, he switched to Boeing 07s and 747s, and qualified as a oeing 707 Flight Instructor and xaminer. Capt. Bose had the honour f bringing in the airline's first umbo to Bombay in 1971.

UPER-FAST TRAIN TO INK DELHI, MADRAS

Rali travel between Delhi and dras will take fewer than 30 urs with the introduction of a per-fast express on August 7.

The tri-weekly train, to be nam the Tamil Nadu Express, will rt from New Delhi on Mondays, dnesdays and Saturdays and m Madras on Mondays, Thurs ys and Saturdays.

The running time of the Grand nk Express will be cut by three urs. At present, it takes 39 hours, 50 minutes. The train will leave New Delhi at 7.30 p.m., reaching Madras at 8.45 a.m., instead of at 11.20 a.m. on the third day. From Madras the G.T. Express will start at 7.30 p.m. reaching New Delhi at 7.55 a.m. on the third day.

The Tamil Nadu Express will leave New Delhi at 6.40 a.m. and reach Madras at 12.35 p.m. next day, completing the 2,182-km. distance in 29 hours, 55 minutes. From Madras, the train will leave at 6.15 a.m., reaching New Delhi at 12.05 p.m., covering the distance in 29 hours, 50 minutes.

It will stop only at Vijayawada, Nagpur, Bhopal and Jhansi in both directions. It will have service stoppages at Amla and Balharshah for watering and picking up food. It will run at a speed of 100 km. an hour with a maximum permissible speed of 110 km.

AIR-INDIA PROFIT

Air-India made a net profit of Rs. 62.5 million in 1975-76 according to latest estimates. Earlier estimates had put the profit at Rs. 51 million.

It maximised utilisation of aircraft and enjoyed industrial peace, besides making the highest profit in 1975-76 since its inception, and official release said recently.

For Air-India air hostess, Parvana Boga, it is four miles from London to Bombay. That is how far she walked on duty aboard her airline's first non-stop flight to Bombay. Before leaving Heathrow Airport Parvana attached a mileometer to her sari uniform and, five thousand flying miles later, found she had covered four walking miles up and down the cabin of the jumbo jet. Similar experiments last year showed that hostesses walked nearly eight miles to New York, and two miles to Beirut.

Indo—Pak air talks for resumption of overflight and establishment of air-links between the two countries began in New Delhi on June 14, 1976. Photo taken on the occasion shows the leader of the Pakistan delegation Mr. Mohsin Kamal (right) shaking hands with the leader of Indian delegation, Shri A.S. Bhatnagar.

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From Filmland

TERNATIONAL AWARD OR FILMS DIVISION OCUMENTARY

"Induced Breeding" an Indian cumentary Film has been award- first prize in the International stival of Aquaculture Films held Kyoto, Japan. 21 films from all er the world entered the competi- n and the Indian documentary s unanimously adjusted the best cording to information received.

AWARDS FOR INDIAN LMS AT ASIAN ESTIVAL

The Indian entries "Harmon-," a Bengali film, directed by Tapan Sinha and "Jatra," a ms Division documentary, duced by Mr. Musher Ahmed d directed by Mr. Balwant Gargi, ve won three awards at the 22nd m festival in Asia which was held Seoul, South Korea, from June to 17, this year.

"Harmonium" was awarded the xcellent music" prize and lden crown" award for "ex- lent acting" went to the heroine mali Gupta. "Jatra" won the ard of "excellent folk art."

The motto of this film festival is "promotion of friendship and ancement of cinema art" and y those films which have not en entered for other international n festivals are eligible to partic- e. The Indian embassy will ceive the awards consisting of two ques and one statuette.

Ashok Kumar, Sanjeev Kumar and Bindu in L.B. Films "ARJUN PANDIT" directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee.

Asha Sachdev & Rajesh Khanna in "Mehbooba" being directed by Shakti Samanta.

New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhandari

RACIAL CLASHES

The racial violence in South Africa, resulting from the black majority's increasing impatience with the white minority's racist domination, raises the question of the position of the Indian settlers in that country. So far, Indians are uninvolved and unaffected.

Just when the black demonstrations and their inhumanly brutal suppression were making headlines around the world, this correspondent had an unexpected opportunity to meet in this city an Indian who was born in South Africa and is settled there. Visiting India for the first time, he preferred to remain anonymous "because of the strictness of the Vorster Government".

My Indian friend did not expect the Indians in South Africa to become involved in the political struggle that is looming on the horizon in that country. Indians are too much in a minority to have any political weight. South Africa, according to him, has 17 million black Africans, four million whites and about one million Indians. Moreover, Indians there are business-minded and politics does not interest them much.

What is their attitude to white domination? Naturally they do not like apartheid and try to ignore it or not think about it, knowing fully well that this is a fundamentally obnoxious doctrine. Otherwise the Indians are quite satisfied, being economically well off. A large number of them have businesses and jobs are also not difficult to get.

In fact, my friend pointed out, it could not be gainsaid that the Indians would favour black rule in South Africa without any doubts. Under the whites, the Indians know their position and the equations are established. Their future under the blacks could be uncertain. Who knows, they might even be thrown out. They are not unaware of what happened in Uganda and is threatening to happen elsewhere in Africa.

Indians migrated to South Africa from all parts of India but most of them are south Indians who left two generations ago. The person I interviewed was a south Indian, his grand-father having migrated as a gardner. He said that the younger generation of Indians was beginning to forget the Indian languages and becoming more conversant with Afrikaan.

"PHOREN" BUG

The British Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, and the Home Secretary, Mr Roy Jenkins, have taken a disappointing stand on the recent eruption of violence in England involving Britons and Indians. Mr Callaghan rejected the demand for a thorough inquiry into the racial clashes when leaders of the Indian community called on him. Mr Jenkins has refused to ban the National Front, the racist anti-immigrant organisation whose hand is seen behind the spate of racial clashes.

While this is regrettable, the least the British authorities can do is to see that the wheels of justice are not impeded and that the culprits are brought to book. At the same time, Indians must consider whether it is either to their economic advantage or in keeping with their dignity to try and enter England surreptitiously. They must realise that now it is not safe even. Illegal immigration from India to England is much less today than before, but it has not completely ended. This correspondent spoke to some travel agents in Connaught Place as well as the British High Commission authorities.

Illegal immigrants can be of three types: those who go on tourist entry permits and then disappear into the country; those who go without any entry permit and try to enter U.K. by slipping ugh the unpoliced coastline; e who try to get entry permits masquerading as blood relatives persons already settled in the K. by producing false affidavits. ording to a very tentative mate, about 400 illegal igrants still manage to enter K. annually. Likewise, on an age one or two persons are orted from the U.K. every day. Persons going without an entry mit are flown by travel agent keteers to places in Europe like enhagen or Frankfurt which do require a visa. From there the keteers' counterparts take over, ng to ferry the human cargo oss, mostly by boats and some es even by small planes or licopters. The English coast is not liced as such. Also, there are a mber of airstrips in England ich do not have immigration or toms checks.

The centre of the racket is in njab, where semi-literate or terate villagers have been bitten the "phoren" bug. A large mber of racketeer travel agents e mushroomed in that state. ere also about two dozen travel ents in Delhi whose agents have ned out into the Punjab ntryside to ensnare villagers into phoren trap. Sums ranging from 15000 to Rs 20000, which lude the price of the ticket, are ken for sending one individual oss. These also include money racted for getting passport, alth certificate and 'P' form de.

As the British immigration law nds at present, Indians settled in U.K. prior to January 1973 can g in their dependents, that is mbers of the inner family circle husband, wife and children. se outside this immediate circle y however be considered pending on the circumstances of h case. The law was amended in 74 permitting girls in U.K. to g in their fiances. Indian girls also come to India, marry and e their husbands back with m.

OLDEST IN EAST

* * * * *

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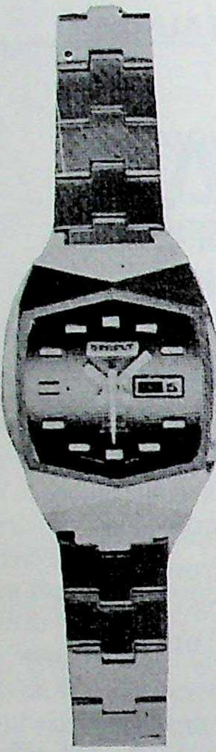

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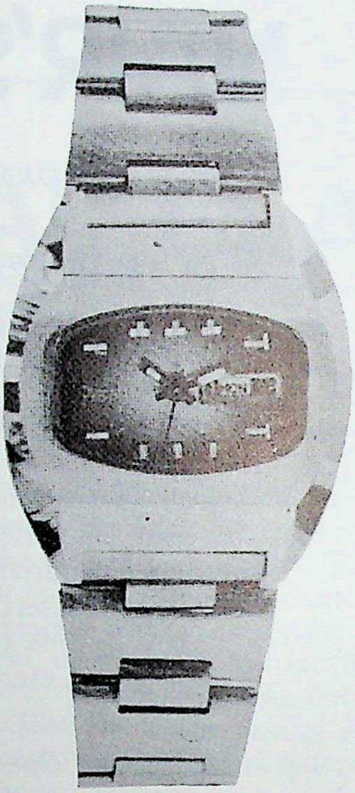

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ndians Abroad

MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

NDIA TO PROBE DELAYS N DELIVERY OF GOODS

Importers in Malaysia have been ssured that the Government of dia will look into complaints of lays in the delivery of goods dered from India. The assurance s given by Mr. Arun Kumar allick, a market researcher and atistics officer with the Engineer-g Export Promotion Council, lcutta. Mr. Mallick, who was cently leading a five-man Indian ade delegation, told importers in oh (Perak State) of Indian hard-are that his team had examined cords of consignment for Malay-a.

INDIA GOVT'S 1974 RULING

He said that the Chinese Cham-r of Commerce in Ipoh had owed him to study its records on e imports of Indian goods. This, said, would help the delegates ke a thorough investigation into e matter. He pledged that export- would be blacklisted if they re found to be guilty of the fence. The Indian Government d ruled in 1974 that all export ntracts must be registered im-diately with the authorities.

Another member of the delegat-, Mr. B. N. Mathur, cited price reases and shipping congestion as sible reasons for delays in the delivery of goods. Mr. Lau Chin Soon, the secretary of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Ipoh, suggested that Indian manufacturers make sure that they have the goods ready before despatching the letters of credit.

The delegation was touring Malaysia as part of a tour to familiarise itself with the market for Indian goods in South-East Asia.

MALAYSIA TO SIGN TAX PACT WITH INDIA

Meanwhile, Malaysia is expected to sign a double taxation agreement with India soon, a Treasury official said in Kuala Lumpur on June 28. "We initialled the agreement in 1972, but due to certain problems the signing was delayed. All the problems have now been settled. We also hope to sign such an agreement with West Germany and Canada this year," the official said.

INDIA'S NEW TOURIST OFFICER IN SINGAPORE

In Singapore, Mr. Sominder Nath Sarup has taken over as director of the Government of India Tourist Office. He succeeds Mr. B. S. Dadlani. An ex-director of Travel Trade in the Department of Tourism in New Delhi, Mr. Sarup was twice awarded fellowship under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to study the organisation, planning and development of resort centres and of tourist infrastructure in Europe.

Mr. Sarup

A graduate in humanities specialising in Geography and Economics and a holder of a Master's degree in Economics and Political Science of the University of Delhi, Mr. Sarup was responsible for starting the first Indian Institute for Mountaineering and Skiing in Gulmarg in 1968, Mr. Sarup was a member of the Indian delegation to the symposium on Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry, held in Yugoslavia last October.

FORMER MP DIES IN ROAD ACCIDENT

I regret to report the sudden and tragic death of former Member of Malaysian Parliament and Penang

State Assembly, Mr. V. Veerappen who was killed on July 4 when his Mercedez Benz car collided with a lorry at the 94th km Ipoh-Kuala Lumpur highway at Trolak, near Tanjung Malim. His younger brother, Mr. Kandasamy, 35, and secretary, Mrs. Ong Kooi Chong, were injured and sent to the Tanjung Malim Hospital.

Mr. Veerappen

The lorry driver and attendent were unhurt. Both vehicles were on their way to Kuala Lumpur when the accident occurred at 11.50 p.m. Mr. Veerappen was burried in his hometown, Nibong Tebal, Penang.

TEACHER, LAWYER AND POLITICIAN

Mr. Veerappen, 52, a lawyer, was a founder member of the Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia in 1968. He became treasurer of the party until 1971. That year, he joined Prof. Syed Hussein Alatas and Dr. Tan Chee Khoon in forming Pekemas, of which he was the Vice-President at the time of his death.

He was a teacher before he went to Britain to study for Law which he completed successfully. He won seats in Parliament and Penang State Assembly on the Socialist Front ticket.

– G.S. Muthukrishnan

SOUTH AFRICA

IN FAVOUR OF NEW LINKS WITH S.A.

A former New Delhi Cabinet Minister, whose Government 27 years ago severed diplomatic relations with South Africa, said in Pietermaritzburg that he would like to see relations between the two countries normalised as soon as possible.

He is Mr. K. Santhanam, who is on a short visit to South Africa accompanied by his son, Mr. K. S. Ramanujam, a journalist, Mrs. Vimla Ramanujam, a noted exponent of Indian classical dancing.

Interviewed at the home of his host, Pietermaritzburg businessman, Mr. A. S. Pillay, Mr. Santhanam said both India and South Africa stood to reap immense benefits by the resumption of diplomatic and trade links between the two countries.

"I am sure, if invited, industrialists from India will be very happy to come to South Africa to set up business in this country.

"Indians in South Africa and their friends in India should take the initiative to normalise relations between the two countries."

He said Indians in South Africa should forget about "petty differences" and send one strong deputation to India to meet the Government and get it to change its policy towards South Africa.

Mr. Santhanam said that he was pleased to find Indians here "better off.' South Africa was a land of many opportunities.

MILK CARNIVAL SARI QUEEN

A record crowd of more than 75,000 Indians packed Chatsworth's Unit Three sportsground to witness one of the biggest carnivals, organised by a milk publicity council. The highlight was the crowning of the milk Carnival Sari Queen by Mahendra Kapoor, one of India's leading singers and film star, who arrived in Durban recently on a country-wide singing tour. He is accompanied by a troupe of musicians and dancers, including Miss Hemlata, who has several thousand followers in South Africa.

The 1976 Milk Carnival Sari Queen, Miss Rookie Hoosen, a clothing factory machinest of Chatsworth, is seen receiving a congratulatory kiss from Mahendra Kapoor, after he presented her with the crown and a sash.

Mahendra Kapoor said he was looking forward to visiting South Africa. "With so many Indians here I feel as if I'm still in India," he said at the carnival.

FILM BAN TO GO

The export of Indian films to South Africa is likely to be resumed, according to a report appearing in "Screen"

Excited cinema-owners and South African film distributors comed the news, linking it with interview which Mr Ajit Sippy e to POST a few months ago. Mr ppy was in Durban then in nection with an interdict against eral cinemas for which he had lied.

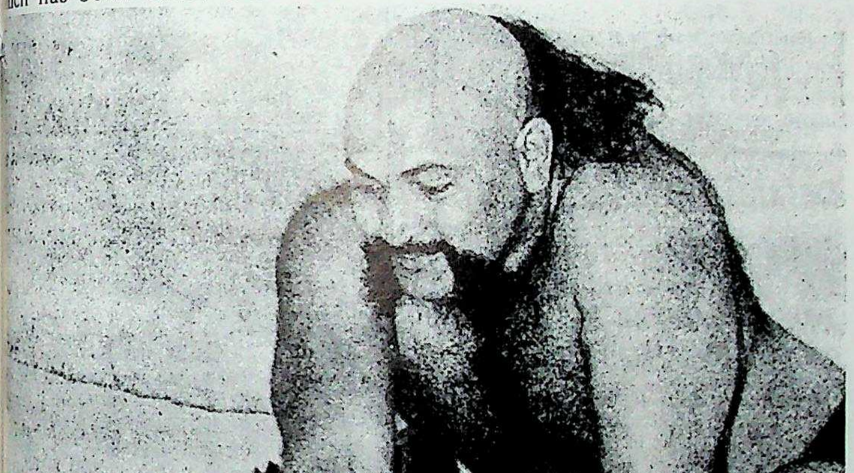
Mr. Sippy contended that his mpany had not given the cinemas cerned the right to distribute his n, "Sholay", in South Africa. Mr. Sippy, who has contact in h Government circles in India, mised to pursue the matter on return home.

Now Mr. G.P. Sippy, who is esident of the All India Film oducers' Council, says the export Indian films to South Africa, hich has been under a ban since Independence, except for a period of three years (1960-63), is likely to be resumed.

Mr. Sippy returned to Bombay after talks with the Ministers of State for Finance and for Information and Broadcasting in New Delhi.

The AIFPC chief learned this from Mr. S. M. H. Burney, secretary to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, who told him a strong case had been made by the Ministry for the lifting of the ban.

This will not only concern the export to South Africa of films – but also other items such as books, medicines and gramophone records, and the Ministry of External Affairs has agreed to reconsider the case.



Mongol tries to force India's champion Tiger Singh, into submission during their national wrestling bout at Currie's Fountain, Durban. Tiger won by two falls to

SRI LANKA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sri Lanka's Deputy High Commissioner of India, Mr. H. D. Bhalla has recently left the colony to take up a higher assignment as India's Ambassador in Chile. To take up Mr. Bhalla's post as Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. M. B. Oza has just arrived in Sri Lanka.

Mrs. Manorama Bhalla who had held the rank of a Minister at the Indian High Commission has also left Sri Lanka to take over the post of Indian Ambassador in Peru.

With the departure of two dignatories the Indian Community were glad when Mr. R. N. Gupta assumed charge as first Secretary (commercial) in the Indian High Commission.

Meanwhile, the relationship between India and Sri Lanka is very cordial and this has prompted the remark from Mr. Y. B. Chavan, Indian Foreign Minister who said in the Indian Parliament recently that there are no outstanding problems between India and Sri Lanka. According to Mr. Chavan, India had granted upto December last year, citizenship to over 321,000 while Sri Lanka had granted citizenship to over 110,000 persons.

The Sri Lanka National Table Tennis Tournament was recently held and Mr. Deepak Naraindas of Messrs. Victory Silk Stores won the title after a splendid performance.

– K. Arjan

POLAND

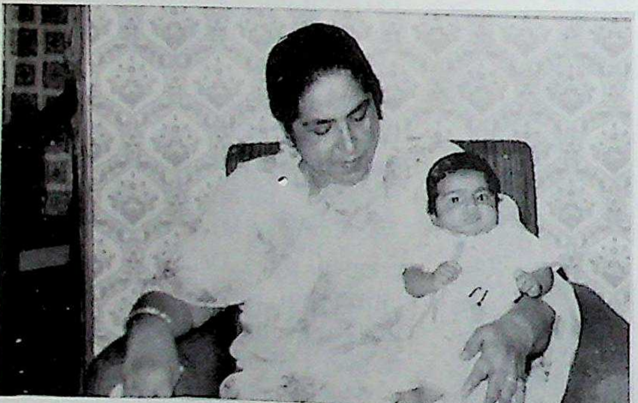
The third session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation conducted here with the signing of the final protocol.

The Indian Minister Mr. K. C. Pant and the Polish Deputy Premier. signed the documents.

TAIWAN

Mr. & Mrs. Rajan J. Chugani were recently blessed with the birth of a charming daughter Nishita and to celebrate the occasion a reception was held by Mr. & Mrs. Topandas K. Chugnai. Seen here are from left to right: Mr. Dialdas Chanrai, Mrs. Lata B. Balani, Mrs. Lux S. Parmanand, Mr. Rajan J. Chugani, Mrs. Dialdas Chanrai, Mrs. Sheila R. Chugani, Mr. Ramesh J. Chugani, Mrs. Bhagwanti J. Chugani, Mr. Lachu J. Chugani, Mr. Topandas K. Chugani and Mrs. Priya R. Chugani.

A Luncheon Party was also hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Dialdas of Bangkok in honour of their grand daughter Nishita at the Grand Hotel. Several friends and relatives joined in the happy occasion and snapped here are some of the charming ladies of Taipei who attended the luncheon.



Baby Nishita is snapped with grandmother Mrs. Bhagwanti J. Chugani.

A cute pair! Master Hitesh and Baby Shalla.

Despite their social engagements the ladies in Taipei often devote their mornings to prayers. Seen at a regular satsang gathering are some of the devotees.

Concentrating on their prayers are from left to right: Mr. Vashi Shamdasani, Mr. Tikam Datwani and Mrs. Raju Tikam.

UNITED KINGDOM

DIAN STUDENT KILLED RACIAL RIOTS

Five young men have been rged with the murder in uthall of Gurdip Singh Chaggar, Indian student who died from b wounds.

The Chairman of the Com- nity Relations Commission, Mr. rk Bonham Carter said that poli- l leaders who have encouraged se attitudes bear a heavy respon- ility.

The Indian Workers Association Southall had coincidentally called conference of all immigrant organ- tions to "launch a strong nation- de movement against the racists d fascists." It was agreed to call on the Prime Minister and the ader of the Opposition to de- unce this violence and to assure minority community that law d order would be restored and r community protected.

"We feel that the situation is rsening every day and we under- nd the anxiety and the emo- nal state of our youth which was played in the conference. We are ying cur best to control them and Government must act and act fectively."

Gurdip Singh Chaggar

Sandesh International Picture

The General Secretary of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, Mr Vishnu Sharma said that he and other community relations leaders considered that the recent rash of racialist-inspired incidents had led directly to the murder of Gurdip Singh Chaggar and the killing of an Indian and a Jordanian student in another area of London. The speeches of Mr Enoch Powell, the National Front march in Bradford and the recent BBC television "Open Door" programme have been cited among occurences which have dismayed the Asian community in Britain. "These things are provocative and nobody is speaking out against them. We appeal to the sane members of the white community to control those who are racists and we from our side will control those who are very much extremists," said Mr Sharma.

An early police statement said that the killing "appears to have been racially motivated" but CID officer Detective Chief Superintendent James Sewell said that the killing would be shown to have nothing to do with racialism: "The whole affair has been carried away on a wave of mass hysteria, and a load of nonsense talk about racial undertones."

The deputy head of Scotland Yard's Community Relations branch appealed to people "not to take the law into their own hands . . . . Anything of this sort can only serve to escalate the situation."

Y HIGH COMMISSIONER IN SOUTHALL

puty High Commissioner K. Natwar-Singh visited Southall. In the picture (from ft) Mr M. S. Padda (General Secretary, Indian Workers Association), Mr C. E. sgupta (Counsellor, Indian High Commission), Mr Natwar-Singh and (extreme ht) Mr T. S. Toor (Cultural Secretary, I.W.A.)

— Photo Madan Arora

CONCERN OVER DETERIORATING RACE RELATIONS

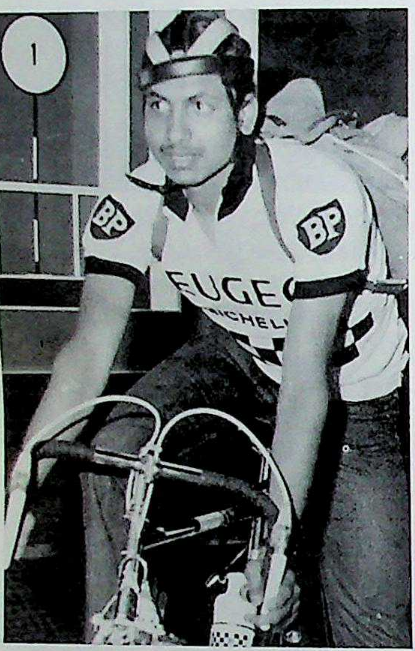
The High Commission of India has been greatly concerned about the deterioration of race relations and some of the allegations contained in the Hawley report as it appeared in the press. The High Commission has discussed the matter with the Foreign Office and expressed the concern of the Government of India.

High Commissioner B.K. Nehru visited the Foreign & Commonwealth Office along with the Pakistan Ambassador. They were told by Under-Secretary of State Luard that the Government was worried by recent developments and anxious to calm feelings.

Deputy High Commissioner K. Natwar-Singh paid a visit to Southall and conveyed the condolences to the bereaved family of Gurdip Singh Chaggar, the student who was murdered recently.

WORLD CONQUEST ON BICYCLE

Purshotham Achar, a young Indian engineer is on a world tour on bicycle. He left Bangalore in August 1975 and since then has been to Middle East, Persian Gulf and is presently in Europe. He has already travelled 30,200 kilometers on his "round the world" cycling.



Purshotham Achar

From U.K. he flies to Canada to continue his journey on land to North and South America, then back to Far East taking in Japan, Korea, Russia, China and his last leg in Ceylon before reaching India. It took 3 years to complete his plans, and journey will last from 2½ to 3 years. He has already spent 53 tyres and five bicycles till now. Over dozen pairs of garments discarded as he goes by from one continent to another. In Turkey he faced sand storms and temperature 20°C minus zero. In order to retrace his direction he had to pin down his bicycle with bamboo sticks in a certain direction to continue his journey after sand storms. While passing through Lebanon he stopped to photograph a ruined house but before he could take a picture a thud came over his head, he fell to the ground unconscious and he was taken away and put in a small bathroom. The next morning the police took him to Syrian border to continue his journey. His films were destroyed but he was not deterred. He goes on.

— C. Govind

DHARMENDRA MEETS HIS FANS

Dharmendra, one of the more popular of the Indian film stars received an enthusiastic welcome from his fans at a reception given by Sanjog films in London recently.

The actor, looking tired and exhausted, was obviously moved by the attention he received, and reciprocated by signing autographs and having his photograph taken with his fans. At one stage he was clearly upset when some self-appointed 'bodyguards' of his attempted to pull people away from him. He went over to an embarrassed gentleman, put his arm round him and asked the photographer to 'click'.

Mr Amarjeet Singh Mathroo, of Sanjog Films gave a reception for the noted film star Dharmendra during his visit to London. In the picture (from left), Mr Chandubhai, Mr Amarjeet Singh, Mr Bhatti, Dharmendra, Mr J. Shah, and Mr K. C. Kohli.

— Photo Madan Arora

Sri Nitin Karia from Bombay delighted the audience at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan with unusual devotional songs, intermingled with wise gags which went well with his programme. Sri Nitin seen 3rd from left. Sri Gohel the Gen. Sec. for Bhavan seen at left thanked Nitin and his party for giving such a beautiful rendition of Bhajans and giving a delight to all. The registrar Sri Mathoor Krishna Moorti requested Sri Nitin to return in a larger hall to do him and his music a justice. Chief guest Sri & Smt. V. Patel, 4th & 5th from left are seen, who greatly appreciated Nitin's singing and Bhavan's activities.

t entertainment was rendered at a recent Concert in aid Hindu Centre. Seen in the photo are from L – R: Sri k Ismail on Tabla, Sri Manhar Seth on Harmonica and l while Sri Rajput also rendered light classical songs er, seen on Tamborine here. Concert also included flute al by Sri Shashi Mehta who is a radio and television mpanist in many programmes.

Part of large audience present at a recent dance and music concert at Wigmore Hall held in aid of Hindu Centre, London. The programme was indeed a great success.

UNITED STATES

DIANS URGE PROPER UMERATION

The Indian immigrant com- nity in the United States has ged the administration and the ngress to arrange a scientific meration of the community at national census to be held in 0.

The community has pointed out at the past census did not reflect ly the population of Indian idents in the United States cause of the inexact ethnic classi- ation of the community.

The case of the immigrants has en taken up with the concerned thorities by the association of dians in America representing the dian immigrants. The Association sident, Dr. Manoranjan Dutta, peared earlier this month before sub-committee of the House of presentatives on census and pulation to plead for a proper nt of the Indian community in 1980 census. The association its officers were also represent- at the Asian Americans and ific People's Conference con- ed by the Bureau of the Census ntly.

The conference has decided, on basis of the discussions, to titute an advisory body of the Asian Americans, a term which includes not only Indians but other Asian residents in the United States and Pacific people, for consultations on the manner of enumeration at future census.

The civil rights act of 1964 makes it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion and national origin. If a community is not properly enumerated, a loss of privileges and right is entailed.

The case of the Association of Indians in America is that Indians from Asia are currently categorised under the White or Caucasian groups or under 'an undefined other' group. On the other hand, certain Asians like the Koreans living in the United States have a category of their own for identification in the census form. They are also included in the Asian American category. The Indian community would like the same categorisation for itself.

According to the latest estimate of the Census Bureau, there are only 78,000 Asian Indians living in the United States. The Association, however, contends that the immigration statistics for the last decade show that a greater number of immigrants came to the United States from India alone.

According to the Association, there are about 250,000 Indians who have made America their home.

In a representation to the U.S. authorities, the Association said: 'The synonymous use of the terms White and Caucasian is the source of trouble in the current classification scheme. By placing Indians in the Asian category, Caucasian and non-Caucasian Indians can find a common generic classification on the basis of geography."

The representation said: "We feel such changes are justifiable on the grounds that Indians do not have the same appearance as a White person and as a result of this appearance suffer racial discrimination. Identification as White bars participation in equal opportunity employment programmes and serves to encourage rather than discourage racial discrimination."

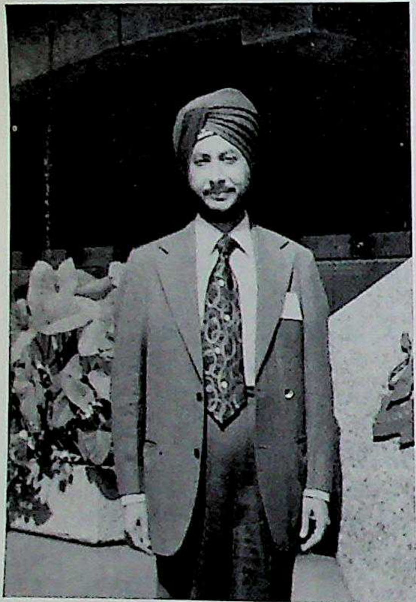
"Inclusion in the Asian category would afford the Indian the opportunity for preferential hiring in affirmative action programmes now available to other minority groups. It would also occasion a reason to begin accurate statistical data gathering which would then enable the government agencies to better understand the problems which Indians face occupationally and otherwise", the representation added.

KENYA

RAUNAQ COMES TO KENYA

A two million pound factory to manufacture industrial fasteners is planned for Kenya.

One of India's leading industrialists, Mr. Raunaq Singh, announced this on his departure for India, at the Nairobi Airport recently. Mr. Raunaq Singh heads the giant Bharat Steel Tubes Limited, employing over 8,000 people. The firm manufactures steel tubes, tyres, automobile ancilaries and gears, among other items.



Mr. Raunaq Singh, one of India's leading industrialists pictured after attending Unctad IV meeting in Nairobi recently.

He will go into partnership with Kenyans to establish this plant, which will make nuts and bolts. He said the plant will be operational within 18 months and will employ between 1,500 and 2000 workers.

Mr. Singh said: "We have signed a letter of intent for the project."

He is president of the Indian Export Organisation and had come to attend the Unctad meeting, with the Indian delegation.

He added: "We may go for this project in two phases. I want to start production without any waste of time."

Mr. Singh expressed interest in launching a large-scale industrial venture with the ICDC. He said he had discussions with the Executive Director of ICDC, Mr. E. Matu Wamae.

Malaysian Minister for Trade and Industry Mr. Datuk Haji Hamzah bin Haji Abu Samah is seen here being escorted by Mr. P. H. Bandodkar when the visiting VIP flew out of Nairobi to Malaysia after attending Unctad IV Conference.

"We have to go through the same exercise whether we have to set up a Shs. 20 million plant or a £20 million plant, so I am trying to see whether it is possible to go in for something on a bigger scale as well in Kenya.

"We are waiting for our Kenyan friends to suggest something. We are willing to come in," he said.

While in Nairobi, he met the Minister for Finance, Mr. Mwai Kibaki.

• •

EMERGENCY: A SOCK ON JAW!

India's associated chamber of commerce and industry has offered unspecified number of scholarships to Kenyans who wish to undertake engineering courses in India.

Association's president Mr. H. P.

The Indian Minister for Foreign Trade, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, (second from left) left Nairobi recently after his address to Unctad IV. He is pictured here being seen off at Nairobi Airport by Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, Mr. Kassim B. Mwamzadi, Kenya's Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. N.L. Mital, Air-India's Regional Manager for Africa.

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da who visited Kenya recently ndian delegate to Unctad IV e the offer during a courtesy on chairman of Kenyan national mber of commerce and industry. r. Nanda took the opportunity xplain the giant strides made by a in last quarter of a century enyan business leaders. ndia's progress was mainly due olitical stability and hard work ndians, he said.

ommonwealth Secretary General hridath Ramphal is seen here being corted by Mr. P. H. Bandodkar hen the visiting VIP flew out of airobi to Singapore recently.

India has in excess skilled anpower which could be useful to her developing nations. Thus the dian chamber was ready to train stgraduate students in agriculture d engineering courses.

Commenting on Indian emer- cy he said "It was sock on the " for awakening India from her ndersirable slumber and country s able to implement most of her nomic and social policies. He ded that, seventy five percent of lic sector companies were king profits due to government ntrol he added. Mr. Nanda nted out his association had half the professionally organised and aged industries in India on its bership. •

— Kul Bhushan

CEUTA/SPAIN

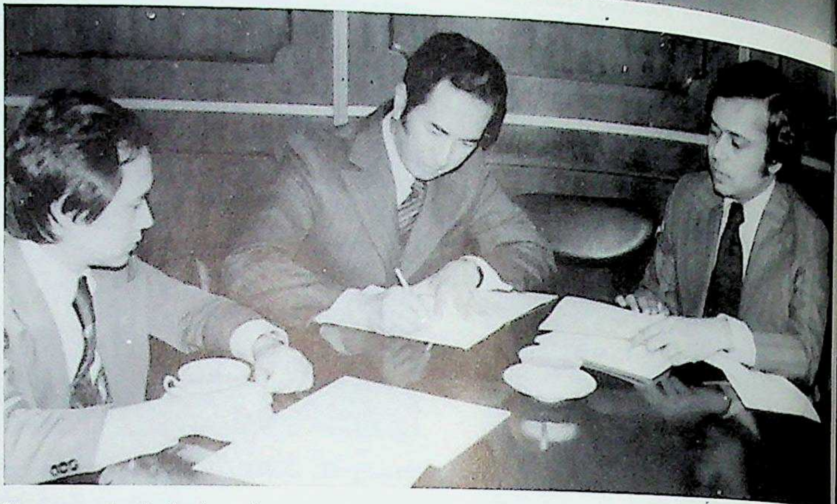
Mr. B. H. Gulrajani, Managing Director of M/s. Gulraj Trading Corporation, Osaka was recently in Ceuta and a cocktail party was held in his honour at "Hotel La Muralla" by the Directors of M/s. Almacenes Tokyo and M/s. Kamal Enterprises. Seen at the occasion are from l – r: Mr. Hashumal, Mr. Vashi, Mr. Gul, Mr. B.H. Gulrajani, Mr. Arjan Lalwani and Mr. Mohan Tondon.

Mohan, the expert bartender is seen preparing "Jaam" (Whisky) for Mr. B. H. Gulrajani.

Snapped at the same occasion are from l -- r: Mr. Ramesh, Nari, Mohan and Chandru.

AIR INDIA APPOINTS GSA FOR MACAU

Mr. Michael Mascarenhas, Air India's Manager – Hong Kong, has announced the appointment, with immediate effect, of Sociedade de Turismo e Diversoes de Macau (STDM) as the airline's General Sales Agents in Macau. STDM will be responsible for generating, in their territory, both passenger and cargo sales for Air India.



Photographed signing the agreement are from l-r: Mr. Lincoln Linn, Air India's Area Sales Manager, Mr. Stanley Ho, Managing Director of STDM and Mr. Michael Mascarenhas.

"VICTORIA CROSS VISITS GURKHA RADIO STATION"

Warrant Officer II Rambahadur Limbu VC and Mrs Purnimaya Limbuni visited the British Forces Broadcasting Service in Hong Kong recently to record an interview about a most exciting experience.

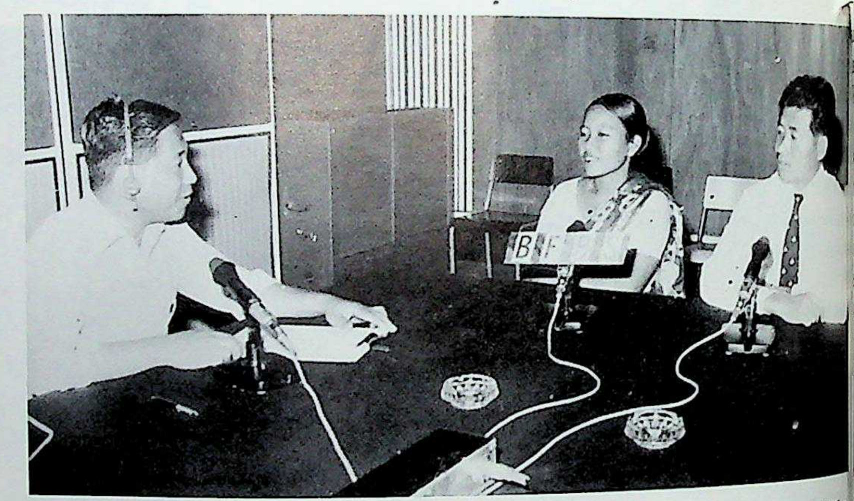
WO II Rambahadur – the last serving Victoria Cross in the Armed Forces – had just returned from a VC/GC reunion in London.

Leaving Hong Kong in a special RAF VC 10, the couple flew to UK, stopping several times on the way to pick up retired holders of the two supreme decorations.

Feted wherever they went in UK, both agreed that the highlight of the visit was an audience with HM The Queen during her birthday celebrations at Windsor Castle.

In an interview for the BFBS "Womens' Programme", Mrs. Purnimaya Limbuni had to admit that English food did perhaps, leave something to be desired! Nevertheless she thoroughly enjoyed the sights and sounds of London and – to her husband's despair – the shops.

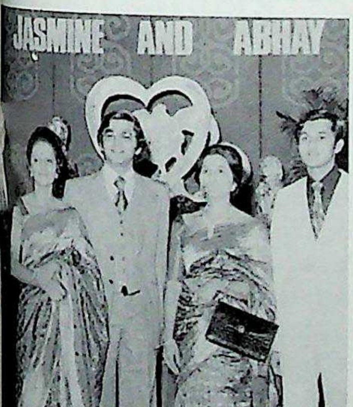
Quietly self possessed, WO II Rambahadur Limbu VC has now settled back into routine military duties with the 10th Princess Mary's Own, Gurkha Rifles in Hong Kong.



Programmes Organiser Capt (QGO) Kishore Kumar Gurung obtains WO II and Mrs. Rambahadur Limbuni's impressions of meeting HM the Queen.

Mrs Kabita Lama, interviewing for Naari Sanshar, agrees with Mrs Purnimaya Limbuni that English food leaves a lot to be desired.

Mr. Dipchand Chuharmal
rdasani of M/s. Vishindas Gian-
nd, Jewellers, Bombay and
oved father of Mr. Lal Hardasani
M/s. Ashoka Enterprises, Hong
g passed away suddenly in
mbay at the age of 57. He is
rived by his wife, six sons, two
ghters and five grand children.
will be greatly missed by all who
w him.
May God rest his soul in peace.



nd Mrs. K. C. Kothari recently
ted a cocktail party at the Hilton
ntroduce their daughter Jasmine
d son-in-law Abhay Parikh to their
y friends here. From left to right
Mr. Kothari, Jasmine and Abhay
ith, Mrs. Kothari and Harshil
thari.

Air India recently hosted a cocktail at the Hilton to bid farewell to the airline's Regional Director East Asia, Mr. C. S. Pinto, and his charming wife Joyce, and to welcome Mr. Pinto's successor, Mr. Balendu Shah and Mrs. Shah. Seen from left are Mr. & Mrs. Shah and Mr. Michael Mascarenhas.

At the recent informal luncheon given by the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hongkong to Mr. A. Sharara, Consul General of Arab Republic of Egypt, discussions took place on the proposed Trade Mission to the Middle East to be organised jointly by the Chamber with the Hongkong Trade Development Council. Photo taken on the occasion shows from left: Mr. V. Panchapakesan, Mr. Hari N. Harilela, J.P., Mr. A. Sharara and Mr. P. S. Santhanam, Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. K. R. Narayanan, India's Ambassador to China was recently in the colony with his charming wife and while in Hongkong a dinner was held in their honour by the President of India Association, Mr. K. Sital. Seen at the occasion are from left to right: Mr. Arjan Melwani, Mr. K. Sital, President — India Association, Mr. Narayanan, Mr. A. Madhavan — Indian Commissioner in Hongkong and Mr. Vishnu Aswani.

DUBAI

The Easter Dance was held at the Indian Sports Club on 22nd April & was a very enjoyable occasion. An added attraction was a fancy dress parade. The judges had a tough time selecting the winner. Nevertheless, the best was Mr. Rex Suzarte who came as a beggar with his begging bowl and chanting Hare Krishna Hare Rama. 2nd was the bad old witch riding on her long broom. She was Mrs. Zarina Mehta perfect with long bloody nails and fang like teeth. The 3rd prize went to Mr. Prem Shahani who was dressed as the "Chowkidar." In addition to all this, there was party dance games to the accompaniment of the local "Sugar & Spice" band.

On 10th May, a farewell Cocktail party was arranged by the Committee Members of the Indian Sports Club and Members, for Sayed Ehsan Haider Rizvi, Ambassador of India to the United Arab Emirates at the Club's premises. The gathering was well attended by prominent Indian business men and Mr. Rizvi had a chance to meet some of his old friends made during his tenure as India's Ambassador to the U.A.E. He was accompanied by Mr. & Mrs. S.P.R. Bhata, Consul General of India in Dubai.

At this very interesting gathering were also present Mrs. Prabhjot Kaur, one of India's famous poetess and her husband, the novelist Mr. Narenderpal Singh. Mrs. Kaur is the Editor of Vikendrit (Punjabi) and Mr. Singh, who is the Editor of Byword (English) has over 40 books to his name. Mrs. Kaur has 37 books and a collection of 17 poems. In 1964 she was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award. The same year she became the Poet Laureate for Punjab. In 1966 she was made a Member of the Legislative Council in Punjab. In 1967 she was awarded the Padmashri and the following year she was given the La Rose de France Decoration. In 1974 she was given the Distinguished Order for Poetry, in the U.S.A. and in 1975 she was chosen International Woman of the Year. She and her husband have travelled widely. They mentioned that their trip to the U.A.E. has been most fruitful and enjoyable.

On Thursday, the 20th May, the Annual May Queen Dance was held at the Indian Sports Club. The band in attendance was that of the "Gemini IV" with Henriette at the Mike. The highlight of the evening was the May Queen Parade. 35 charming ladies braved their way to the platform. Five judges were chosen from the audience. The ladies were made to parade individually and in the first round, an elimination was made, choosing only the first 20. After this it was tough going for the five judges to choose the May Queen and the 2 runner-ups. Well, a decision was finally made and the May Queen was Miss Judy D'souza and the 2 runner-ups were two sisters Misses Deborah & Ingrid Williams. Fabulous prizes were given to all three of them.

The evening was very well organized and went off very smoothly. Even the weather was delightful.

– Dina Motiwala

"May Queen", Miss Judy D'souza snapped with the two runner-ups from left: Miss Deborah and Miss Ingrid Williams, who incidently happen to be very charming sisters.

THAILAND

ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTION

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Hindu Samaj was held recently in the Hindu Samaj Dev Mandir and the following were elected office bearers of the Samaj for the year 1976/77. Shri Prithviraj Pawa – President; Shri Baldev Raj Sachdeva – Vice President; Shri Krishan Lal Matta – General Secretary; Shri Krishan Lal Pawa – Joint Secretary; Smt. Raj Kumari – Joint Secretary for Ladies; Shri Shadi Lal Sachdev – Honorary Treasurer; Shri Jagdish Chander Kwatra – Mandir Vibhag Convenor; Shri Narinder Singh Banga – Samajic Vibhag Convenor; Shri Mahabir Lal Ghogar – Sahaik Vibhag Convenor; Shri Sorendar Pal Sachdev – Sanskriti Vibhag Convenor; Shri J. L. Sethi – Education Vibhag Convenor; Shri Baldev Raj Narula – Jan-Kalyan Vibhag Convenor.

MONGOLIA

Indian Film Festival was rated in Ulan Bator by the lian Deputy Minister for e before a packed hall of iative audience. Speaking on ccasion Mr. Daramusren, Chairman, Mongolian Film ry, commended the role of nd said that Indian films had e very popular in Mongolia the first film festival held in Indian Ambassador, Mr. an referred to the major role lian film Industry, the largest e world, in promoting cultural ation and development and spread of music, dance and a.

e festival has been arranged the Indo-Mongolian Cultural nge Programme.

KOREA

Mr. Ram Daryanani, Proprietor of Ram's International, Seoul celebrated his 53rd birthday recently at the President Hotel with over 400 of his business friends, Government Officers, Bankers, Ambassadors of Chile, India, Malaysia and others. Mr. Ram is snapped here sharing his birthday cake with his charming wife, Kalan while friends watch with amusement.

SWITZERLAND

IAN DELEGATION'S T TO SWISS PERATIVES

n Indian Delegation led by Mr. George, Minister of State for stry and Civil Supplies, Govt. dia and comprising Mr. K. V. avulu, Minister of Civil lies, State of Andhra Pradesh, Zainal Abedin, Minister of Co-tion, State of West Bengal, two secretaries of Govt. of visited Switzerland between 19th of June 1976. The ation studied the working of nergoods distribution center, mer protection measures and cooperative trade relations, ularly possibilities for the of consumer products by ratives in India.

e Delegation will be visiting d, England, Sweden, Denmark e USA. Their first station was Switzerland. They visited here the two biggest cooperatives, "Coop Schweiz" and "Migros". The Delegation had chance to visit the biggest distribution center of Switzerland, "Migros Zurich", where the food and nonfood articles make a turnover of approx. 1,000 mio Swiss Francs (approx. 3,800 mio Rupees) and its laboratories, where every food article sample has to be tasted before it will be sold in its own shops. Migros with its 446 stores commands approx. one fourth of food and one sixth of nonfood sales of total Swiss markets. The total turnover of Migros is approx. 6,500 mio Fr. (approx. 20,000 mio Rp.) The explanation of its philosophy and history by Mrs. A. Kowner, Mr. W. Schmid and Mr. W. Hurlemann gave the visitors a clear cut conception about Migros, which is private concern, but full-filling the government duties. They also visited the most modern Swiss shopping center "GLATT" near Zurich with its approx. 4,000 parking place possibilities.

In the evening, the Indian community "Bharat Majlis" gave a dinner in honour of the visiting delegation. The president of Bharat Majlis, Mr. Vijay Kumar Singh, greeted them on behalf of Indians living around Zurich. The delegation felt so homely that they discussed freely the political and economical problems of the country. They assured the Indians that India after Emergency is doing better and better every day and a common man is happier than before where he had a right to abuse everybody but not enough to eat.

All the arrangement had been made by the ambassador in Switzerland, Mr. Avtar Singh.

— Vijay Kumar Singh

CHEN CHAO-YUAN IS CHINESE ENVOY

The Indian initiative for improving relations with China can be said to have yielded an appropriate response with the naming of the Chinese ambassador in New Delhi even before the presentation of credentials by the Indian ambassador to Peking, Mr. K. R. Narayanan.

The appointment of Mr. Chen Chao-yuan is taken here as a fine gesture. Mr. Chen, who is a veteran of the diplomatic service of the People's Republic, is due to arrive New Delhi shortly.

The appointment of Mr. Narayanan as our ambassador is known to be a part of serious efforts to restore normal and friendly relations with China.

This was significantly brought out by the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, in a speech in Berlin when she said: "Our attempts to have friendly relations with China" instead of using the official expression used so far to "normalise relations with China."

The current normalising process recently suffered, however, a slight setback when a joint communique issued at the end of the Pakistani Prime Minister, Mr. Bhutto's visit to Peking a reference to India's internal affair concerning the state of Jammu and Kashmir was made.

The new Chinese ambassador is now his country's ambassador in Spain. Before going to Madrid he was ambassador to Burma. He was a counsellor in the Chinese embassy here from 1963 to 1970.

Mr Narayanan arrived in Peking on 7th July. India had announced the appointment of Mr. Narayanan as its ambassador to China on April 15.

China had then indicated that it would nominate its ambassador after the Indian ambassador arrived in Peking.

The upgrading of diplomatic representation between India and China takes place about 15 years after the two countries had withdrawn their ambassadors from Peking and New Delhi.

The last Indian ambassador, Mr. G. Parthasarathi, returned from Peking in July, 1961. A few months later, the Chinese ambassador in Delhi, too, returned to Peking.

NEW ENVOY TO IRAN

Mr. Kumar Ram Pratap Sin presently India's ambassador t Afghanistan, has been appointed ambassador to Iran in succession to Mr. Ramchandra Dattatraya Sathe.

He is expected to take up his assignment shortly, says an official press release.

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OUBLE DECKER RAIN TO TAJ

Taj express between Delhi d Agra is the first in Asia to be uble-deck coach train.

The Coach would accommoite 148 passengers in the onomy class.

CHOLARSHIPS FOR HINESE STUDIES

The Indian Government ecided to award two scholarips for Chinese studies abroad ery year, one for the degree urses and the other for Ph.D.

ATELLITE LINK

India forged a new direct tellite telecommunications link ith Iran just in time as the Predent, Mr Fakhruddin Ali hmed, began his state visit to at country.

LK GOODS EXPORTS OUCH NEW HIGH IN 975-76

Indian exports of silk goods. luding fabrics, yarn and waste Rs. 175.20 million in 1975- constitutes one of the est recorded in recent years. export value has registered a per cent. rise over that of 4-75 at Rs. 126.60 million. rms of quantity, the exports .17 million square metres in -76. showed a 21 per cent.

CEMENTING FRIENDSHIP

Indian delegation snapped just before leaving for Islamabad. Leader Jagat Mehta is in the centre.

INDO-ROMANIA AGREEMENT

Niculae Agachi, Minister for Metallurgy of Romania and Keshav Malaviya, Petroleum Minister of India signing the Protocol.

INDIA ELECTED PRESIDENT

The leader of the Indian delegation, Mr. V. C. Shukla, was unanimously elected president of the ministerial conference of the non-aligned countries on the press agencies pool.

Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Peru and Zaire will be the four vice-presidents representing Asia, Europe, Latin America and Africa.

Mr. Shukla's name was proposed by Mr. Musthapha Masmudi, information minister of Tunisia. Tunisia, which is the co-ordinating country of the non-aligned group in the field of information, will be the ex-officio member of the conference bureau.

Iraq has been elected as the rapporteur-general of the conference.

Mauritius and Ghana are the chairman of the two committees of the conference. Egypt and Viet Nam are their respective vice-presidents.

Cuba will be the rapporteur of the first committee while Senegal of the second committee.

IN MOSCOW

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with Secretary General Brezhnev in Moscow.

FOR CHILDREN IN MOSCOW

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi presented costume dolls of India to the children of Moscow during her visit to the Soviet Union recently.

3 GOVERNORS SWORN IN

Mr. Mohanlal Sukhadia, Mr. R. D. Bhandare and Mr. Jagannath Kaushal took over as governors of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar, respectively on June 17, 1976.

Mr. Sukhadia, who relinquished his post as governor of Andhra Pradesh, was sworn in by the chief justice of the Madras high court, Mr. P. S. Kailasam at Rajaji Hall in Madras. He succeeds Mr. K. K. Shah.

The acting chief justice of the Patna high court, Mr. Justice K. V. N. Singh administered the oath of office to Mr. Kaushal, former advocate-general of Haryana, in Patna. Mr. Kaushal succeeds Mr. R. D. Bhandare.

Mr. Bhandare was sworn in at a simple function at Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad. Mr. S. Obul Reddy, chief justice of the Andhra Pradesh High court, administered the oath of office.

2-YR. DETENTION UNDER MISA

The President on June 16 extended by one more year the power of the government to detain a person under the maintenance of internal security act without giving him the grounds for his detention.

The extension has been made through an ordinance which substitutes the words "twenty-four months" for the words "twelve months" in section 16-A of the MISA. The 12-month period specified in this section would have expired on June 29 this year.

MERCHANT MARINE FLEET

The Indian merchant marine fleet has risen to 338 vessels aggregating 47,28,000 gross registered tonnes. During May, the country acquired two second-hand ships, MV Nitya Nanak and MV Saheeda.

10 major ports of the y handled a total traffic of n tonnes in April 1976. The st cargo of 161 m tonnes was d by the port of Marmu Gao; ay with 142 m tonnes was d and Visakhapatnam with 81 nnes stood third. The largest er of ships, over 200 was ed by the port of Bombay. In arly 600 ships visited all the ajor ports.

IAN TRADE HIBITION TO BE HELD BRAZIL

e Centre has framed a pro- me for participation in international fairs abroad and organising usive Indian exhibitions in cted countries during this year give a fillip to the export of an merchandise and consul- y services to new areas offering potential.

ndia will participate in the ar international fair in Senegal n December 3 to 12. A wholly an trade exhibition will be nised in Suva, Fiji in Novem- and the first-ever Indian trade bition will be held in Rio De eiro in Brazil from November 19 28.

ERILISATION BILL

The joint committee of the harashtra legislature on the state pulsory sterilisation bill has mmended that couples having three male or all three female dren should be allowed to have one more child.

The committee has said that, ding to demographers, cases of couples are negligible, there only one such couple in a lation of 20,000 (and not 0 in all).

IA AMONG MAJOR -GIVERS TO NEPAL

a, China and the U.S. will be jor aid-givers to Nepal during 1976-77, according to the national news agency, RSS.

On the multilateral side, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank will be the major donors, each giving about Rs. 13 crores.

For the first time Nepal gave out the figures, which excluded organisational overheads and salaries of technical personnel among the 30 countries and agencies assisting the kingdom during 1976-77.

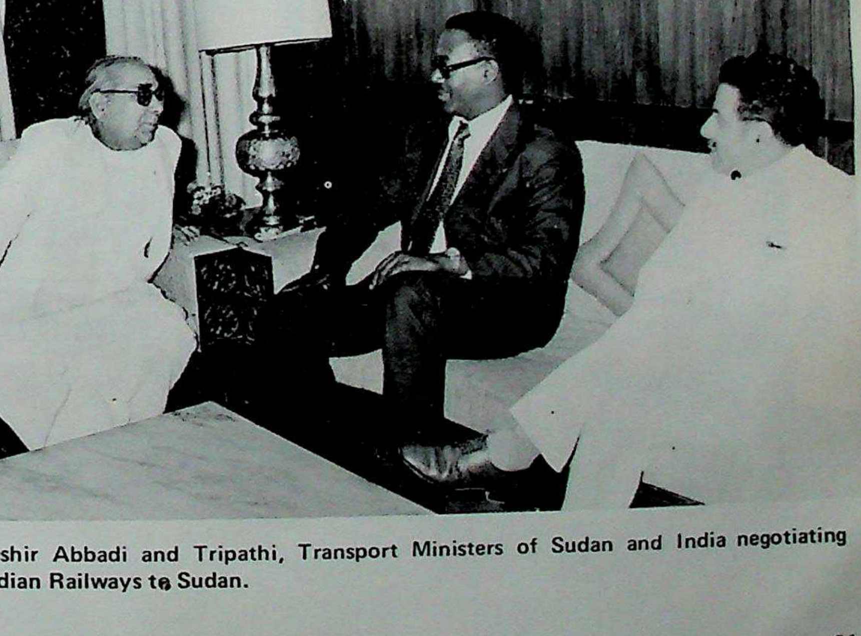
The Indian aid figure was given as Rs. 6.98 crores in Nepalese currency while its projected aid figures during the coming fiscal year was placed at Rs. 6.84 crores. No comment was available about that figure, however.

Other countries mentioned as assisting Nepal were (in Nepalese currency), West Germany (Rs. 4.48 crores), the U.K. (Rs. 2.77 crores) Japan (Rs. 1.68 crores), Kuwait (Rs. 1.57 crores) and Switzerland (Rs. 1.43 crores).

OFF TO HONOLULU

A group of Bhangra and Giddha dancers in New Delhi before departure for the PATA conference held in Honolulu.

RAILWAY TO SUDAN



Beshir Abbadi and Tripathi, Transport Ministers of Sudan and India negotiating Indian Railways to Sudan.

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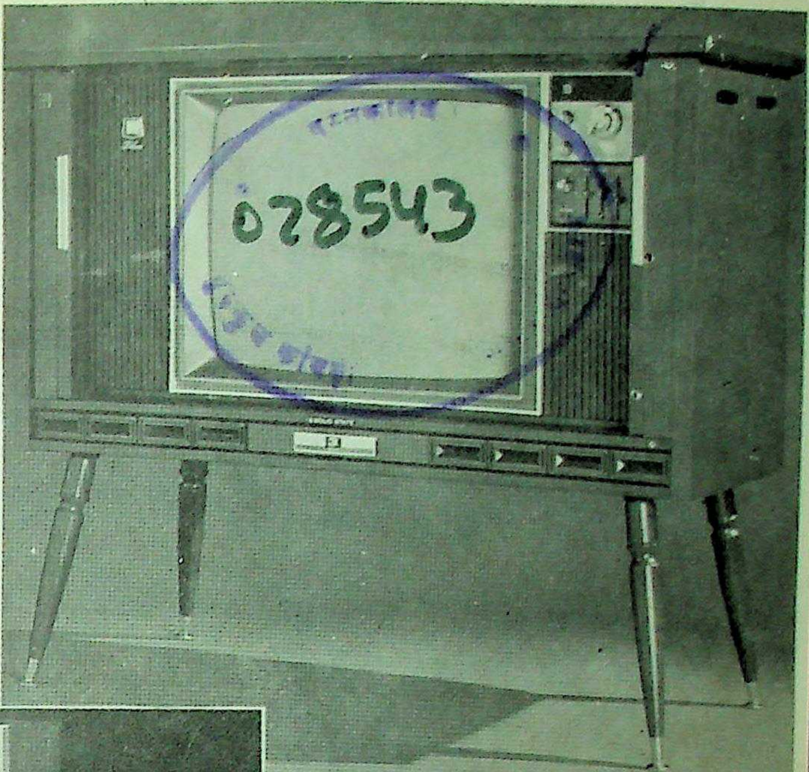

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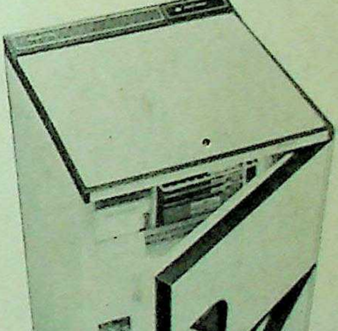

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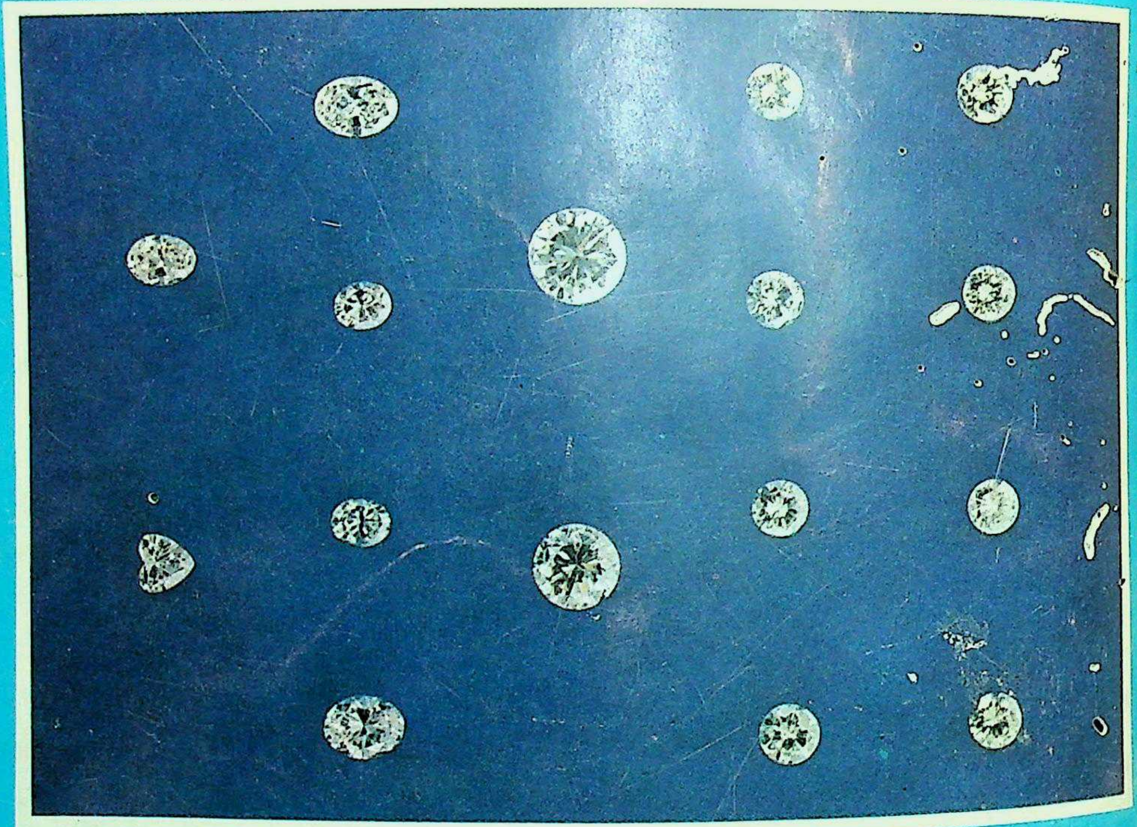

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